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PART 18.

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JANUARY TO JUNE, 1883.

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Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

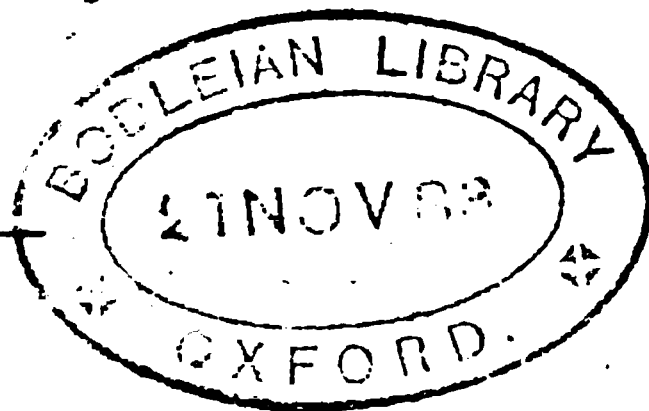
City News Notes

and

Queries.

8

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]



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CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.

1883.

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VOLUME V.

MANCHESTER :
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.
—
1883-4.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Abolition of Breach of Promise Cases...	26
Accuracy in Quotation ...	300
African Lake, Discovery of a New ...	148
Agecroft, John, of Bredbury ...	313
Ages of Kings and Queens ...	18
Agriculture, Cheshire ...	267, 271
Alcohol, Experiment with Pigs ...	233
Alexandra Park, Huge Stone at ...	135
Alizarine Industry, The ...	100
Altrincham or Altringham ...	267
"Mayor of ...	62, 72, 101
<i>Ambition's Stare</i> , New Play ...	46
Americans and Sterne's Home ...	130
Ancient Britons, Relics of the ...	282
"Deeds ...	21
"Dwellings in Conway Valley ...	297, 302, 308, 318
Anecdotes, Fishing ...	254
Angelo, Michael, Frescoes of ...	5
Animal Food, Levitical Distinctions as to ...	67
Anniversaries of Marriage ...	306, 307
Antiquities of the Wallasey Peninsula ...	281, 284, 286, 288
Apparitor ...	184
Appleby's Poems ...	102, 118, 125
Architectural Freak ...	282
Ardwick, Mayor of ...	199
Ascent, Modes of ...	53, 58
Ashburnham Collection of MSS. ...	26
Aspull, George ...	279, 280
Assheton, Rev. Robert ...	190, 191
Aston Church, Strange Epitaph in... ..	39
Aughton Pudding ...	184, 230
Authors, Incorporated Society of ...	285
AUTHORSHIP WANTED:—	
"All's Well" ...	78, 81
"April Rain" ...	209, 212
"Aw'll Ne'er Pawn My Fiddle" ...	109, 111, 116
"Charity Dinner" ...	196, 198
"Devil's Walk" ...	180, 183
"Every Puny Clerk" ...	158
<i>Footprints</i> ...	44, 48
Hymns ...	251, 254
"Ivy" ...	261
<i>John Inglesant</i> ...	41, 47
"John Maynard" ...	142, 144, 165, 167
Lines ...	206, 208, 297
<i>Man of Pleasure</i> ...	168
"Monk that Shook the World" ...	168, 183
Motto on Franklin's Statue... ..	166, 167
Pauper's Funeral ...	45, 49
Poem ...	260
"Scandal" ...	180, 183
"Wanted" ...	180
"Woodman Spare that Tree" ...	78, 81, 85
"Bachelor," as applied to women ...	104
Bacup, Derivation of ...	56
Bakeham Brow, or Bacup Brow Farm ...	313
Balaklava Heroes, One of the ...	113
Baldness and Hate ...	247, 250
Banks, David Ward, Reminiscences of ...	18
Bank Top ...	259, 261, 263, 267, 271
Barons of Magna Charta and their Descendants... ..	304
Barring Out ...	310, 311, 314, 318, 321
Bath, Municipal Records of ...	328
Battle of Neville's Cross ...	93
Beaumaris Castle ...	310
Beckford Library, Sale of ...	240
Beer, Names of ...	50
"Beetle and Wedge," The ...	142
Bell-tinker, Derivation of ...	200, 202, 207
Bequest, Singular Sermon ...	31
Berlin, Population of ...	87
Berm-woman ...	328, 329

	PAGE
BIOGRAPHICAL:—	
Agecroft, John, of Bredbury ...	313
Aspull, George ...	279, 280
Betts, Edward ...	48
Birches, of Birch ...	50, 146, 149
Booth, Sir Robert ...	260, 269, 273, 289
Bradbury, Rev. David ...	135
Brookes, of Astley Hall ...	50
Butterworth, James ...	106, 244
Byron, Henry James ...	233
Byron, Lord ...	70
Cassell, John ...	27
Cheese, Griffith James ...	41, 44, 48, 58
Crossley, James ...	117, 120, 123
Downs Family (Shropshire) ...	57
Eaton, Samuel and Theophilus ...	299, 304
Fairfax, Sir Thomas ...	145, 149, 154
Handforth, Benjamin ...	42, 53, 56
Hatfield, Miss ...	45
Hill, John, the Arithmetician ...	224
Johnson, Thomas ...	14
Leach, James ...	168
Mills, Moses ...	314, 317, 320, 325
Pepyn, Martin (a painter) ...	150, 154
Phillips, Sir George ...	187, 189
Rathjens, William ...	30
Robinson, Rev. Robert ...	193, 196, 203
"Robert, Another ...	204
Sandiford, James ...	56, 58, 61
Smith, Alexander ...	208
Smith, Talking and Walking ...	172, 185
Standishes of Duxbury ...	62, 112, 114
Swindells, publisher ...	173, 178
Tate, portrait painter ...	204, 205
Thomson, James, the poet ...	44, 53
Tarback, John... ..	276, 278
Bible, Science in the ...	290, 291, 300
Bishop Bayly ...	21
Blackpool, Tricycle Route to ...	109, 111
Blackstone Edge, Roman Road Over ...	147, 150, 155, 159, 162, 166
Blakiston Family, The ...	187
Blanc, Louis, Glimpses of ...	95
Blocking a Bill in Parliament ...	122, 125, 129
Blood, Colonel ...	257
Boiling to Death of Margaret Davey... ..	211, 213
Books, Early English ...	272
"of the World ...	59
"on Republicanism ...	25
"Rare ...	152
Booth, Chief-Justice, in Ireland ...	260, 269, 273, 289
Bootle Family and Lathom House ...	295
Botanical Illustration, New Mode of ...	211
Bow-fell, Rocks on ...	314
Bracegirdle, Mrs. Anne... ..	17
Bradley, artist ...	227
Bradshaws of Darcy Lever ...	112
Brains in Eminent Men, Size of ...	164
Breach of Promise Cases, Abolition of ...	26
Bread and Potatoes, Price of ...	220, 225
Bright, John: <i>etat</i> 31 ...	89
"and Mr. Gladstone ...	231
British Settlement, Ancient ...	136
Brontë, Charlotte, as "Currer Bell" ...	221
Brontës, The Home of the ...	173
Brooks, Joshua, and Jones at th' Birches ...	184
"Brush Before Your Own Door" ...	217, 222
Buckle, George Earle, editor, <i>Times</i> ...	212
the historian, Glimpses of ...	99
Building Problem, A ...	138
Bullock-Smithy ...	231, 235, 255
Bulwer-Lytton, Glimpses of ...	104
Burns, Robert, Descendants of ...	160
" Favourite Tavern of... ..	139
Butterworth, James ...	244

	PAGE		PAGE
Buxton Huts or Cottages	312, 315, 317	CUSTOMS :—	
Byron, Henry James	233	Kissing on the Stage	211
Calvert, Charles	206, 207	Parkin or Tharcake	330
Camels and Dromedaries	90, 94	Preaching Matches	273
Candle Selling by	265	Rice Ordeal in India	272
Canterbury Tales, How to Read the	87	Rosemary	216, 218, 222, 225
Carding Engines, Revolving	297, 299	Rump and Dozen, A... ..	209, 210
Carling Sunday	212, 227	Sale by Candle	265
Carlyle's Lancashire Pedlar	285	Shoes and Rice at Weddings	130, 134
Carthusian Monks in England	97	Thunder Bells	112
Cassell, John	27	Cyoling	149, 154
"Cat and the Fiddle," The	41, 44	" in Norfolk	279, 280
"Cathedral," Origin of the Word	196	Cyclists' Route to Harrogate	112, 116
Caxton, Memorials of	74	" " Llandudno	88, 89
Centenarians	237	" " Norfolk	90, 95
Censorship of Plays	294	" " Southport	259
Chancels in Old Churches	196, 198, 210	" " Tutbury	145
Charles Head Farm	248	" Tour in North Wales	117
Charles II. and Milton	11	Dam at Lymm, The	285
Chatterton, Portrait of, in Peel Park Museum	109	Davy, Margaret, Boiling to Death of	211, 213
Chaucer and the Miracle Plays	34	Deaf and Dumb Wedding	22
Cheese, Griffith James	41, 44, 48, 58	Deansgate Deed, An Old	296
Cheshire Agriculture	267, 271	Death Rate, Decline in the	57
Cheshire Legend: Seven Sisters	227, 228	"Defence, Not Defiance"	149, 154, 158
Cheshire, Ormerod's History of	142	De Quincy, Dr. Maginn on	70
Chetham, Humphrey, and the Manchester Foundations	204	" and Rivington School	82
Chetham Library, The	158, 161, 283, 289, 293, 296	Derby Family, and Hamilton Succession	233, 239, 245, 250
" Society, Report of the	45, 57	Derby, Wealth of Earl of	145
Chief of the Gordon Clan	325	Derbyshire, Farm Labourers in, 60 Years Ago	143
Chief Rents, Origin of	287	Descent, Mahometan Law of	122, 126
Chorlton-cum-Hardy, and the Rebels of '45	69	De Veres, The	237, 251, 257
Chorlton Hall	262, 264	"Devil Looking Over Lincoln," The	62, 68
Chough, Chew, or Shoe Mill	192, 198	"Devil's Walk," The	180, 183
Christ Church, Hulme, and Mr. Gaskell	173, 178, 186	DIALECT :—	
Christian Era, The (1883 or 1888)	80	Bachelor, as Applied to Women	104
Churches in Liverpool, 1775	39	Bacup, Derivation of	56
" Sexes in	13, 15	Beer, Names of	50
Church Walks	162	Beetle and Wedge	142
Civil List for 1884	269	Bell-tinker	200, 202, 207
Claytons of Marple	280	Berm-Woman	328, 329
Clock, A Perpetual	171	Dree	133
Clockmaker, An Old Manchester	276, 278	Drumlie	25, 37, 40
Clockmakers, Old Lancashire and Cheshire	276, 278, 282	"Dusk," Use of, for "Darken"	168, 261
Cobden and Stockport	317	Eem	309
Coins, Discovery of	59	Fefnicute	283, 291, 292, 298, 309
Coloured Bottles in Druggists' Windows	294, 297	Ings	216, 224, 225
"Composition" and "Fifteens"	56	Kelgh-neyve	309
Compstall and Romiley	135	Nangnail	130, 134, 135, 140
Congo, Exploration of the	119	Notchel	325
Conisborough Castle	152	Pobgreen	135
Converts to Rome	276	Scot	267
Conway, Tricycle Route to	279, 280	Undern, or Undorn	32
Conway Valley, Ancient Dwellings in	297, 302, 308, 318	Warthe	306
Corollary in the <i>Tempest</i>	35, 37	Dickens, Charles, Glimpses of	104
Cotton Ball, or Calico Ball ?	214	" Seaside Resort of	119
" Manufacture, Chronological History of	148, 152	Dickens's Poor Travellers' House	308
Coucher Book of Furness Abbey	103	Dirt Fair	309
Countryman's Pharmacopœia	181, 189	Discovery of Pictures by Turner	297
Court House, Old, at Madeley	35	" Singular, at Victoria Bridge	11
Court Theatre, Liverpool, Purchase of	204	Divorce in France	277
Cousins, Samuel, B.A.	251	Doctors in Australia	259
Coventry, Tricycle Route to	109, 110	Dolly Vardens	190, 191
Cox, David, Price of Pictures of	227	"Don't Bother Me"	292, 295
Cromwell in Lancashire and Bury Castle	73, 79	Dore	233
Cromwellian Settlement in Ireland	71	Downs Family, Shropshire	57
Crossley, James	117, 120, 123	Drake, Sir Francis	18
" " as a Poetical Critic	299	"Dree," Meaning of	133
" " Magnus Opus of	127	Driving Tour to Northumberland	265
" " Recollections of	120, 127	Druggists' Coloured Bottles	294, 297
CUSTOMS :—		Drumlie, Origin of	25, 37, 40
Aughton Pudding, The	184, 230	"Dun" To, Origin of	292
Anniversaries of Marriage	306, 307	"Dusk," Use of, for "Darken"	168, 261
Barring Out	310, 311, 314, 318, 321	Earldom of Stamford and Warrington	1
Customs in Jewish Synagogues	7, 9	Early English Books	272
Carling Sunday	212, 227	Easter Day Proverb	47, 58
Customs and Privileges, Old English	262, 264	East Wind, One use of	240
Candle, Selling by	265	Eaton, Samuel and Theophilus	299, 304
Coloured Bottles in Druggists' Windows	294, 297	Edinburgh, Progress of	168
"Han' ye any Green Stuff?"	216, 218, 222, 225	Editors a Century Ago	265, 267, 275
Hunting the Wren: Manx Custom	4, 6, 14	"Eem," Meaning of	309

INDEX.

v.

	PAGE		PAGE
Egerton Family, The	237, 243, 250, 253, 259	Harvest Moon, Which is the?	308
Egg-Collecting	237	Hatfield, Miss, of Manchester	45
Election Newspapers	303	Hats and Baldness	247, 250
Electricity, Tricycling by	290	"Hawk from a Handsaw"	25, 28, 37
Eliot George, A Glimpse of	118	Haworth, a Pilgrimage to	173
Ellenbrook, Origin of	122	Haydon, and Manchester School of Design... ..	220, 223, 228
End of Handloom Weaving in Lancashire	27	Havward, Mr. Abraham, Death of	204
English Men of Letters, Vote on	170	"Helter Skelter"	294, 297
Entwistle Brow	173, 179	Henry IV. in Manchester	200, 201
Epitaph in St. Ann's Churchyard	41, 47	Hermit of Lathom	257
" Singular, at Frodsham	47	Heroine, A Confederate	272
" Strange, in Aston Park	39	High Speed in Express Trains	160
Errand People	193	High-street Fifty Years Ago	216
"Esq."	279	Highways, Old Lancashire	22
Esthwaite Lake	251	Hill, John, the Arithmetician	224
Etymology of Scotch Words	40	Hinton, James, Glimpses of	104
Euclid	231, 246	Historical Associations of Lancashire	25
Express Trains, High Speed of	160	Names and Titles, Old	233, 237
Eye Hospital and Dr. Fox	4	"H," The Letter, On the Stage	248
Fairfax, Sir Thomas	145, 149, 154	Hullah, John, Death of	211
Farm Labourers in Derbyshire Sixty Years Ago	143	Hull, Edward	321, 322
Father—a Prefix	126	Hunting the Wren, Manx Custom of	4, 6, 14
Faulty Flannel	294, 298	IDIOMS AND SAYINGS:—	
Fear, Physiology of	262, 272	"Brush Before Your Own Door"	217, 222
Fefnicate	283, 291, 292, 298, 309	"Defence, not Defiance"	149, 154, 158
Fiction, Prices of Works of	21	"Devil Looking over Lincoln," The	62, 68
Fifteens and Composition	56	"Don't Bother Me"	292, 295
Fish, A Strange	88, 89	"Dun," To	292
Fishing Anecdotes	254	"Grand Old Man"	200, 201
Pleas, Cure for	255	"Han' Ye Any Green Stuff?"	216, 218, 222, 225
Folk Lore, Manx	139	"Helter Skelter"	294, 297
Food, Prices of	229	"Mad as a March Hare"	47
Footprints, Authorship of	44, 48	"Moab is my Washpot"	130
Foreigners in France	11	"Nangnail"	130, 134, 135, 140
Fox, Dr., and the Eye Hospital	4	"Noble Art," The	32, 38
Frasers and Macphersons	233, 246	"Nail, On the"	33, 37, 70
Free Lance, The	11	"Necessity has no Law"	130
Frodsham, Singular Epitaph at	47	"On the Nail"	33, 37, 70
Fruiterer	237, 239, 243	"Point Blank"	102, 103
Fulling or Walk Mills	190, 192, 194, 203	"Rump and Dozen"	209, 210
Fulton in Manchester	86	Incorporated Society of Authors	285
Furness Abbey, Missing Coucher Book of	103	Industry and	200
Gambling, Juvenile, Seventy Years Ago	35	Ingram, Herbert, and Parr's Life Pills	200, 202, 205, 207
Gaskell, Mr., and Christ Church, Hulme	173, 178, 186	"Ings," Derivation of	216, 224, 225
Gentlemen's Rings	312	Inhalation, Suicide by	279
Germans, Why They Emigrate	88	Initials—L.D.S., A.M.D.G.	102, 103
Gesettes Land	221, 235, 239	Ireland, Cromwellian Settlement of	71
Giants, A Town of	82	Revenue and Cost of	56, 72
Gibbet Lore	56	Irish in England	180
Gilda Brook, Origin of Name	184	Jacobite Rising in 1745	50
Gimmel Ring	86, 88	Jesuits, The	160
Gladstone, Mr., and Mr. Bright	231	"Generals of the	157
" Quotation of, from Lucretius	79	Jewish Synagogue Customs	7, 9, 13, 15
Glimpses of Famous Men	95, 99, 104, 118	Jews and Longevity	288, 292
Glossaries, Lancashire	203	John Inglesant, Author of	41, 47
Gordon Clan, Chief of	325	Johnson, Dr., Our Local (J. Crossley)	123
Gorilla in Paris	231	Thomas, Biography of	14
Gotherswick	145	Jone at th' Birches and Joshua Brooks	184
Goyt, or Mersey, Which?	221, 225, 232, 236, 242, 252	Jones, Inigo: Was he Welsh or English?	319, 324
"Grand Old Man," The	200, 201	Juvenile Gambling Seventy Years Ago	35
Great Stone, Stretford	328, 330	Keigh-neyve	309
Greengate, Old Hall in	17, 24	Kilt, The	24
Grege, The	251	Kings and Queens, Ages of	18
Grist and Mario	187	Kissing on the Stage	211
Gun-street School	62	Labour, English v. Foreign	320
Guy Faux and Salford	321	Lacroix, M. Paul, Death of	303
Hailstones	272, 275	Lady Tease	285
Half Holiday, Saturday	321, 322, 328	Lancashire and Spenser	12
Hall on the Hill	38	Family History, A Chapter of	62
Hamilton Library, Sale of	240	Glossaries	203
Succession and Derby Family	233, 239, 245, 250	Highways, Old	22
Hamlet, The King, and Polonius	35, 41	Historical Associations of	25
Handforth, Benjamin	42, 53, 56	in 1775	32
Handloom Weaving in Lancashire, End of	27	Men	35
Hanging Ditch Deed, An Old	311	Patronymics	263
"Han' Ye Any Green Stuff?"	216, 218, 222, 225	Pedlar, Carlyle's	285
Harding, John, Picture by	317, 320	Periodicals	119, 121
Harrogate as a Marriage Market	310	Public School Association	130, 144
Cyclists' Route to	112, 116		

	PAGE		PAGE
Land and Owners in Great Britain	38	MANCHESTER:—	
Largest and Smallest Parishes and Churches	2	Property Encroachments	322
" Locomotive Driving Wheel	88, 89	Regent Road Bridge... ..	119, 122
Lathom House and the Bootle Family	295	Royal Possessions, A.D. 1615	291
" The Hermit of	257	Saint Mary's Charity	254, 256
Layers for Meddlers	317, 324, 325, 329	" " Church	260, 321
Leach, James, the Composer	168	" " Gate Deed	298
Lead Mining, Extinction of	259	Salford and Guy Faux	321
Leigh in the Last Century	17	" Origin of the Word	165
Levitical Distinctions as to Food	67	Stretford, Old Road to	162
Lewes, George Henry	118	Summerville House, Pendleton	314, 327
Lincoln Cathedral	87	Tinker's Map of Manchester	231, 232
Lindsay and the Lyon Family: a Coincidence	185	Toll House in Stockport Road	11
Lime Ash Cottages at Buxton	312, 315, 317	Walker's Croft	198, 199
Liverpool and the Ship Canal	286	MANCHESTER STREET LORE:—	
" Churches in 1775	39	I. Cooper's Row, Cooper's Lane	52
Llandudno, By Road to	240, 243	II. Marsland-street	60
" Cyclists' Route to	88, 89	III. Minshull-street and Aytoun-street	70
Loch Leven Trout for United States	325	IV. Parker-street	77
Logic of Pain	244	V. Booth-street, Piccadilly	81
London Bridge, A Romance of	244	VI. Hulme-street and Brazenose-street	94
" On Foot to	104, 108	VII. Fetter Lane	101, 125
Longevity and the Jews	288, 292	VIII. Parsonage, St. Mary's-street, College Land	131
" in Lancashire	217	Circus-street	130, 131
" of Scientists	180	Dickenson-street, Bootle-street, & Tasle Alley.	298
Lonsight	325	Red Cross-street	98, 101
" Abbey	4	Mangnall's Questions Printed in Stockport	209
" Old Hall... ..	3	Manuscripts, Ashburnham Collection of	26
Lucretius, Mr. Gladstone's Quotation from... ..	79	Manx Folk Lore	139
Lymm, The Dam at	285	" Word, and Custom	4, 6, 9, 14
Lytton, Lord, and Tennyson	299, 300	Mario and Grisil	187
Macphersons and Frasers	233, 246, 254, 255, 258, 261	Marler, Family of... ..	180, 185, 188
" Mad as a March Hare "	47	Marriage Anniversaries	306, 307
Madeley, Old Court-house at	35	" Market, Harrogate as a	310
Mæcenus, A Manchester	152	Married Couples, Tax on... ..	7, 10
Maginn, Dr., and De Quincy	70	Marsden, William, and Quoits... ..	329
Magna Charta, Barons of, and their Descendants	304	Mauldeth Hall	330
Mahometan Law of Descent	122, 126	Maurice, F. D., Glimpses of	99
Mallerstang Forest, Westmorland	136	Mayor of Altrincham	62, 72, 101
MANCHESTER:—		" Ardwick	199
Alexandra Park, Huge Stone at	135	Mechanical Skill in Lancashire	97
Ardwick, Mayor of	199	Meddlers, Layers for	317, 324, 325, 329
Bank Top	259, 261, 263, 267, 271	Melrose Abbey	142
Birches of Birch	50, 146, 149	Memorable Sayings	4
Cassell, John	27	Memorials of the Dead	114, 139, 143
Chetham, Humphrey, and His Foundations	204	" Raleigh and Caxton	74
" Library	158, 161, 283, 289, 293, 296	Mersey Docks Board	11, 12
Chorlton Hall	262, 264	" or Goyt?	221, 225, 232, 236, 242, 252
Christchurch, Hulme, and Mr. Gaskell... ..	173, 178, 188	" Village Church on the	39
Clockmakers, Old	56, 58, 61, 276, 278, 282, 289	Merryn Clitheroe, Local Allusions in	248
Committee of Trade	25	Michael Angelo's Frescoes in the Sistine Chapel	5
Deansgate Deed, Old	295	Milestone, Roman, in North Wales	41, 53, 54
Deeds, A.D. 1692-3	307	Mill, John Stuart, Glimpses of	95
Dirt Fair	309	Mills, Moses, artist	314, 317, 320, 325
Epitaph in St. Anne's Churchyard	41, 47	Milton and Charles II.	11
Eye Hospital and Dr. Fox... ..	4	Milton's Conception of Satan	75
Gotherswick	145	" Last Verses	1, 5, 9
Grammar School	68, 71	Minotaur, The Wreck of the	98
Great Stone, Stretford	328, 330	Minor Poets and the Reading Public... ..	290
Greengate, Old Hall in	17, 24	Miracle Plays, Chaucer and the	34
Gun-street School	62	Missing Link, Another	112
Hanging Ditch Deed, Old... ..	311	" Moab is My Washpot "	130
Hatfield, Miss... ..	45	" Mobled Queen "	70
High-street Fifty Years Ago	216	Money, English, Where it Goes	303
Lonsight	325	Mosquito Bites	88, 90
" Abbey	4	Moss House	52
" Old Hall	3	Mothering Sunday, Origin of	212, 227
Manchester Journals	3, 22, 256, 258, 259, 266	" Nail, On the "	33, 37, 70
" Mercury	281, 282	Name of Sect	150
" Observer	223, 234	Names of Beer	50
Moravians and Manchester	83, 90	Nangnail, Derivation of	130, 134, 135, 140
Newspapers	3, 4, 82, 152, 281, 282, 294, 295	" Necessity has no Law "	130
Nicholas Croft	45	Nelson's Signal at Trafalgar	148
Oldham Family	279, 280	Neville's Cross, Battle of... ..	93
" Road Academy	42, 53, 56	New Railway Bridge (Victoria), Discovery at	11
Ordsall Cave and Ancient Remains	158, 161, 167, 170, 172, 180, 182	Newspaper, The First Welsh	39
Pamphlet Society	193	Newspapers and Parliament	317
Pendleton Coal Mines	314, 322, 327	" Early, in Lancashire	82
Place Names, Old	328, 329	" Editors of, a Century Ago	265, 267, 275
Portraits at Royal Infirmary	259, 261, 264	" Election	303
		" Manchester	3, 22, 256, 258, 259, 266
		" Halfpenny Morning	4

INDEX.

vii.

	PAGE		PAGE
Newspapers, The First	210, 244, 254	Portraits at the Royal Infirmary	259, 261, 264
New South Wales as a Customer for England	269	Preaching Matches	273
Nicholas Croft	45	Price of Bread and Potatoes	220, 225
"Noble Art," The... ..	32, 38	Proctor, Richard Wright, Recollections of	215
Norfolk, Cycling in	279, 280	Professors of Poetry, Oxford	254, 255
" Cyclists' Route to	90, 95	Property Encroachments in Manchester	322
Normans and Mechanical Skill in Lancashire	91	Prospect from Worsley and Swinton	297
Northumberland, Driving Tour to	265	Proverb, An Easter Day	47, 58
North Wales, Cyclists' Tour in	117	Publications of 1883	187
Notchel, Derivation of	325	"Pulse of the Machine," Wordsworth's	109
Nursery Rhymes	17, 24, 28	<i>Punch</i> , Editors of	312
Occupations, Unintelligible	181, 189	Purgatory Masses	105
Oil on Troubled Waters	122	Qualtrough (Manx word)	4, 9
Old Church near Ribchester	123	Queen, The, as an Indian Goddess	46
" Court-house at Madeley	35	Quillinan, Edward	170
" Hall in Greengate	17, 24	Quilts and Mr. W. Marsden	329
" Halls of Lancashire and Cheshire	267	Quotation, Accuracy in	300
" Topographers	8, 12, 15, 23	Race and Industry	200
Oldham Family, Manchester	279, 280	Railway Station, The Largest	35
" Road Academy and its Last Masters	42, 53, 56	Rainfall and Sunshine in 1883	248
On Foot to London	104, 108	Rainless Days in 1882	25, 28
"On the Nail"	33, 37, 70	Raleigh, Memorials of	74
Ordsall Cave & Ancient Remains. 158, 161, 167, 170, 172, 180, 182		Ramsden, Jesse, Optician	201
Ormerod's <i>History of Cheshire</i>	142	Rare Books	152
Orpington Church Porch	241	Rathjens, William... ..	30
Oswestry, Tricycle Route to	216, 217	Razors and Sheffield	31
Over Mace, The	167	Reade, Charles, and Mrs. Seymour	241
Owen, Robert, in Manchester	86	" Will of	248
Oxford Professors of Poetry	254, 255	Reading, Teaching the Art of	7
Pain, The Logic of	244	Rebels of '45 and Chorlton-cum-Hardy	69
Paper Mills at Throstle Nest	276, 278	" at Stockport	54, 59, 61
Parcel Post or Parcels Post	122, 130, 166	" in Cheshire	164, 170
Parishes and Churches, Largest and Smallest	2	Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire	176
Parkfield House	130	Regent Road Bridge	119, 122
Parkin or Tharcake	330	Relics of the Ancient Britons	282
Parliament and Newspapers	317	Religious Liberty in an English Village	303
Parody on Tennyson's <i>Balaklava Charge</i>	150	" Statistics	206
Parr's Life Pills, and Ingram, Herbert	200, 202, 205, 207	"Remove" in Shakspeare	58
Patronymics, Lancashire	263	Republicanism, Books on	25
Pattison, Rev. Mark, Death of... ..	277	Revolving Carding Engines	297, 299
"Pauper's Funeral," Author of	45, 49	Ribchester, Old Church near	123
Payne, John Howard, in Manchester	216, 217	Rice Ordeal in India	272
Pendleton Coal Mines	314, 322, 327	Rings, Gentlemen's	312
" Maypole	51	Rivington School and De Quincey	82
Pendragon Castle, Westmorland	136	Robertson, T. W., Glimpses of	99
Pepper-street	180	Robinson, Rev. Robert, Sermons of	193, 196, 203
Pepyn, Martin, the painter	150, 154	" Robert, Another	204
PERIODICALS:—		Roman Milestone in North Wales	41, 53, 54
<i>Field Naturalist</i>	22	" Road Over Blackstone Edge 147, 150, 155, 159, 162, 166	
First Newspaper	240, 244, 254	Romans in Britain, The	59
" Welsh Newspaper	39	" Stockport, The	299
<i>Free Lance</i>	11	" Westmorland, The	257
Lancashire Periodicals	119, 121	Rome, Converts to	276
<i>Manchester Mercury</i>	281, 282	Romiley and Compstall	135
Manchester Periodicals	152, 256, 258, 259, 266	Rosemary	216, 218, 222, 225
" <i>Observer</i>	233, 234	Rossetti, Dante, House of	138
<i>Poor Man's Guardian</i>	294, 295	Royal Academy	287
Perpetual Clock, A	171	" Possessions in Manchester, A.D. 1615	291
Pharmacopœia, The Countryman's	181, 189	" Society, The New President	169
Pharaoh's Red Sea Chariots, Search for	102	Rump and Dozen	209, 210
Phrenological Observations	328	Rushcarts, Origin of	136, 140
Philips Family, The	217	Rynt and Rynty	206, 207, 210
" Sir George	187, 189	Sailing on Friday	262, 263, 266
Physiology of Fear	262, 272	Saint Mary's Charity	254, 256
Picture-buyers, Rival	171	" " Church	260, 321
" of a Wreck, by Turner	287	" " Gate Deed, An Old	298
Pictures by Turner, Discovery of	297	Sale by Candle	265
Pidcock, Mr.	224, 227	Salford and Guy Faux	321
Pikes, Origin of	240, 243	" Origin of the Word	165
Place-names in Old Manchester	328, 329	Sand Fleas, To Destroy	240, 251, 255
Plate, Silver	25, 28	Sandiford, James	56, 58, 61
Plays at the Parish Church	168, 170	Satan, Milton's Conception of	75
" Censorship of	294	Saturday Half-holiday	321, 322, 328
" When First Acted... ..	294, 298, 308	Saxon Church, Discovery of an Old	166
Pleasure	200	Saxons in Manchester	191, 196
Plumian Professorship	7	Sayings, Memorable	4
Pobgreen	135	School Experiment, New	224
Point Blank, Origin of	102, 103	" Libraries in France	199
<i>Poor Man's Guardian</i>	294, 295	" Teachers, Salaries of	196
Population of Berlin	87		

	PAGE		PAGE
Science in the Bible	290, 291, 300	Swindells, Publisher	173, 178
"Scot," Meaning of	267	Synagogues, Jewish Customs in	7, 9, 13
Scotch, Words, Etymology of	40	Talking and Walking Smith	172, 185
Soot's March	78	Tarbuck, John	276, 278
Scott, Sir Walter, Translation of Works of	46	Tate, the Portrait Painter	204, 205
Sect, Name of	150	Tax on Married Couples	7, 10
Seventy Years Ago	32, 35	Teaching the Art of Reading	7
Seven Sisters, a Cheshire Legend	227, 228	Tennyson and Lord Lytton	299, 300
Seymour, Laura, and Mr. Charles Reade	241	" the Peerage	185
Sexes in Churches	13, 15	Tennyson's Balaklava Charge, Parody	150
SHAKSPERIANA:—		" Poem, "The Flower"	95
"A Hawk from a Handsaw"	25, 28, 37	Tewkesbury Abbey House	87
A Line in <i>Othello</i>	272, 273	Thackeray, Glimpses of	95
Aroint and Areawt	213	Thirteen at Dinner	262, 263, 266
"Corollary" in the <i>Tempest</i>	35, 37	Thomson, James, the Poet	44, 53
Deaths in Shakspeare	287	Throstle Nest Paper Mills	276, 278
Hamlet, the King, and Polonius	35, 41	Thunder Bells	112
<i>Henry IV.</i> in Manchester	200, 201	Tides, Irregularity of	119
Lady Macbeth	164	Timekeeper, The Sun as a	211, 213
Merlin's Prophecy in <i>King Lear</i>	173, 186	<i>Times</i> , New Editor of	212
"Mobled Queen"	70	Tinker's Map of Manchester	231, 232
"Most Unkindest"	98	Tobacco, First Mention and First Name of	77, 82
Passage in <i>Richard II.</i>	134, 135, 141	" Smoking	83
"Remove"	58	Tokens	117, 119, 127, 131
Shakspeare and Shorthand	309, 311	Toll-house on Stockport Road	11
" House of	85	Top of the Street, The	78
" Grave of	136, 141, 143	Topographers, Old	8, 12, 15, 23
"Sickness is Catching"	78, 85	Town of Giants, A	82
Sullivan's, Sir A., <i>Tempest</i> Music	278	Trade, Manchester Committee of	25
Sheffield and Razors	31	Tricycle Route to Blackpool	109, 111
Ship Canal, Liverpool and the Projected	286	" " Conway	279, 280
Shoe, Oough, or Chew Mill	192, 198	" " Coventry	109, 110
Shoe, in Scripture	128	" " Oswestry	216, 217
" and Rice at Weddings	130, 134	" " Tutbury	145
Shorthand and Shakspeare	309, 311	Tricycling by Electricity	290
Should or Would	300	Trombone	237, 255
Silver-plate	25, 28	Trustees, The Simeon	29, 34
Simeon Trustees, The	29, 34	Ulrici, Death of	192
Singular Sermon Bequest	31	Umbrella in India	148
Six and Eightpence	12	Unbelievers in France	259
Skeletons, Wholesale and Retail	294, 297	Undern, or Undorn	32
Skull at Wardley Hall	34, 37	Unintelligible Occupations	181, 189
Smith, Alexander, Verses of	208	Usquebah	67
" Talking and Walking	172, 185	Village Church on the Mersey	39
Smoking Tobacco	88	Volunteers, Interesting Memento of the Old	303
Solomon's Temple	56	Wall Paintings, Permanent	209
Sonnets, The Best	262	Walker Art Gallery, Enlargement of	204
Soudan, Meaning of	244	Walker's Croft	198, 199
Southcott, Joanna	312	Wallasey Peninsula	281, 284, 286, 288
Southport Characters, Sixty Years Ago	249, 252	War, Cost of a	173
" Cyclists' Route to	259	Wardley Hall, Skull at	34, 37
Spenser and Lancashire	12	Warthe	306
Spenser's Tavern	126, 129	Watch, A Straw	282
Spinning Wheel, Revival of the	160	Ways of Spending Sunday	269
Stage, Illustrations of the	166	Wedding, Deaf and Dumb	22
" The Infant, and Stage-terms	132, 140	Welsh, The, and Their Language	164
Stamford and Warrington, Earldoms of	1	" Newspaper, The First	39
Standishes of Duxbury and Miles Standish	62, 112, 114	Westmorland, The Romans in	257
Statistics, Religious	206	Wheat Cheaper than for 100 Years	285
Sterne's Home and Americans	130	Why the Germans Emigrate	88
" House	192	Wigan Free Library	15
Stockport and Cobden	317	Wilson, Richard, Grave of	303
" The Romans in	299	Wish, Fulfilment of a	201
Stocks, The	216, 219, 222, 232	Wordsworth's "Pulse of the Machine"	109
Stone, Huge, at Alexandra Park	135	Workhouse Taken, A	117, 119
" Primers	282	Works of Fiction, Prices for	21
Strange Fish, A	88, 89	"World's End"—an Inn Sign	211, 213
Straw Watch, A	282	Worsley and Swinton, Prospect from	297
Street Name, A	307, 313	Would and Should	300
Street, Top of the	78	Wragge, Clement L.	224
Stretford, Great Stone	328, 330	Wreck, A Picture of a, by Turner	287
" Old Road to	162	" of the Minotaur	98
Success, A New Way to	209	Wren, Hunting The—a Manx Custom	4, 6, 14
Suicide by Inhalation	279	Wycollar Hall and Home of the Brontës	173
Sullivan, Sir A., <i>Tempest</i> Music	278	"Yolande," Pronunciation of	133
Summerville House, Pendleton	314, 327		
Sun, The, as a Timekeeper	211, 213		
Sunday, Ways of Spending	269		
Sunshine and Rainfall in 1883	248		

MANCHESTER CITY NEWS.

Notes and Queries.

FIFTH VOLUME.

Saturday, January 6, 1883.

NOTES.

EARLDOMS OF STAMFORD AND WARRINGTON,

[2,985]. The statement in the newspapers as to the successor to the late Earl of Stamford and Warrington is not strictly correct. The Rev. Harry Grey will *not* succeed to the Earldom of Warrington. Lord Stamford was only the third Earl of Warrington, although seventh Earl of Stamford. His grandfather, the sixth Earl, who died about forty years ago, was second Earl of Warrington; the earldom of Warrington of the present creation having been granted to his greatgrandfather, the fifth Earl of Stamford. The grandfather of the Rev. Harry Grey, the Hon. John Grey, was the brother of that Earl; therefore the new earl stands in the position of second cousin once removed of the late earl.

There was an earldom of Warrington previously, but that title became extinct in the eighteenth century, in the absence of a male heir; the daughter of the last Earl of Warrington became Countess of Stamford, and her son obtained a renewal of the old title.

As to the succession to the estates in the seven counties, it is not certain that the late Earl was able to bequeath them. He sold his estate in Millington, Cheshire, a few years since to Lord Egerton of Tatton, and if able to do that, why should he not have been able to make a will by which his estates should go to his nearest relatives, the descendants of his late sister, Lady Margaret Milbanke? F. W. H.

"MILTON'S LAST VERSES."

[2,986]. The volume of *Penny Readings*, issued by Lewis's, Manchester, is a marvel of cheapness; but its contents are, for the most part, familiar to the general reader, excepting, perhaps, the piece entitled "Milton's Last Verses," to which the publishers prefix this note:—

"The following beautiful lines, which are not to be found in any of the published works of Milton, are supposed to have been written by that great poet, although there is no positive proof of their authorship other than their intrinsic merit. The MS. has been in the possession of a gentleman for a great number of years, by whose kind permission the verses are inserted in Lewis's *Penny Readings*."

Permit me to say that this is erroneous, and that Lewis's have been imposed on by somebody. The poem occurs in the Oxford edition of Milton's works, whence it must have been inaccurately as well as incompletely copied, the following being the correct version:—

I am old and blind!
Men point at me as smitten by God's frow
Afflicted and deserted of my mind,
Yet am I not cast down.

I am weak, yet strong;
I murmur not that I no longer see;
Poor, old, and helpless, I the more belong,
Father Supreme! to Thee.

O, Merciful One!
When men are farthest, then Thou art most near;
When friends pass by and would my weakness snur
Thy chariot I hear.

Thy glorious face
Is leaning towards me, and its holy light
Shines in upon my lonely dwelling-place,
And there is no more night.

On my bended knee
I recognise Thy purpose clearly shown :
My vision Thou has dimmed that I might see
Thyself—Thyself alone.

I have nought to fear :
This darkness is the shadow of Thy wing ;
Beneath it I am almost sacred—here
Can come no evil thing.

Lead me, Father kind :
With Thee to guide, the lonesome path I wend,
No danger hath to helpless, poor, or blind,
And Heaven is at the end.

O ! I seem to stand
Trembling, where foot of mortal ne'er hath been,
Wrapt in the radiance of Thy sovereign hand,
Which eye hath never seen.

Visions come and go—
Shapes of resplendent beauty round me throng ;
From angel-lips I seem to hear the flow
Of soft and holy song.

It is nothing now,
When Heaven is opening on my sightless eyes—
When airs from Paradise refresh my brow—
That earth in darkness lies.

In a purer clime
My being fills with rapture—waves of thought
Roll in upon my spirit—strains sublime
Break over me unsought.

Give me now my lyre !
I feel the stirrings of a gift divine :
Within my bosom glows unearthly fire,
Lit by no skill of mine."

This beautiful poem is comparatively unknown,
and the desire to see it correctly presented is my
excuse for asking you to insert it.

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

[No satisfactory evidence has ever been produced to
prove that these lines are by Milton, although it is
quite true that they are included in the Oxford Edition
of his Poems. They are almost certainly the pro-
duction of some anonymous writer in the present
century.—EDITOR.]

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE LARGEST AND SMALLEST PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

(Query No. 2,983, December 30.

[2,987]. AUTOLYCTUS asks a question about the
ancient parishes of the country, very interesting in
itself, and which would require a great deal of labour
to answer thoroughly. A parish is the precinct or
territorial jurisdiction of a secular priest, or a circuit
of ground or district inhabited by people who belong
to one church and are under the particular charge of
its minister. In the earliest ages of the church the

name "parish" was applied to the district placed
under the superintendence of the bishop, and was equi-
valent to the diocese. The first Christian missionaries
attached themselves to the courts of the kinglets, of
whom our country boasted a goodly number in the
early days of the Saxon conquest. We read that
these petty monarchs were the first converts to
Christianity, and their conversion was generally fol-
lowed by that of the people over whom they ruled.
The English bishops were thus at first royal chap-
lains, and their diocese was naturally nothing but
the kingdom. The organization of the episcopate
was followed by the organization of the parish
system. The bishop had been assisted by mission-
aries planted in every favourable locality. These
missionaries disappeared and became settled clergy.
The holding of the English thane or landowner
became the parish, and his chaplain the parish priest.

The varying extent of our English parishes is some-
what surprising. The smallest parishes are in the
eastern counties of Huntingdon, Middlesex, Norfolk,
Suffolk, and Northampton. As a rule they are larger
in the western and northern counties. In Westmore-
land an average parish comprises 24 square miles,
while in Lancashire the average rises to about 29
square miles. The old parish of Whalley, for instance,
which I believe is the largest in England, contains
108,140 statute acres, or more than 168 square miles.
Some of the large Lancashire parishes are:—Lancas-
ter with 66,100 acres, Rochdale with 58,620 acres,
Blackburn with 45,620 acres, and Kirkham with
41,850 acres. Manchester parish contains 34,260 acres.
The smallest parish in Lancashire is Cloughton, near
Lancaster, containing 1,530 acres. The parish church
contains the oldest dated bell in the kingdom (1296).
There are, I believe, only sixty-six parishes in
Lancashire, which occasions Dr. Fuller to remark
that "this shire, though exceedingly thick of people,
is exceedingly thin of parishes."

The disparity in the size of English and Scottish
parishes is shown by the simple statement that while
in England and Wales there are 10,700 parishes for
its 58,320 square miles, there are only 948 Scottish
parishes comprising a total of 30,328 square miles.
The smallest Scottish parishes may be looked for in
Fife and the Lothians, while the largest are to be
found in Sutherland (where an average parish con-
tains 145 square miles), Inverness, Ross, and Caith-
ness. The Irish parishes are much smaller as a rule
than those of Scotland. The largest are to be found

in Donegal, Fermanagh, and Leitrim; the smallest in Louth and Meath.

The largest parish churches in England have belonged to conventual establishments. By far the largest is the abbey church of St. Albans, which, like the old parish church of Manchester, has been raised to the rank of a cathedral. In an old gazetteer of England and Wales, published in 1775, I find this statement: "St. Andrews, the ancient parish church, being demolished, the corporation bought the cathedral that belonged to the monastery of Edward VI. for £400, and, having made it their parish church, called it St. Albans." The same authority gives the following as its measurements: 350 feet long from east to west, 217 feet across the transept; nave 70 feet broad by 65 feet in height; tower 144 feet high. Beverley Minster is 334 feet long, and 167 feet across the transept. I am not, however, sure that it would be considered a parish church in the ordinary sense. Southwell Minster, according to M'Culloch, is the parish church of Southwell. It is 306 feet long, and is 121 feet across the transept. Selby Abbey Church, according to Murray, was made the parochial church of Selby by James I. in 1618. It is 300 feet long, 130 feet across the transept, and its tower is 156 feet high. The largest church in England that never was anything else but a parish church is, I believe, that of Great Yarmouth, which is said to be 230 feet long, and 108 feet broad. It is remarkable only for its size, being plain and comparatively modern. Our Lancashire parish churches are comparatively small beside these huge structures. Manchester Cathedral is about the largest, being 220 feet in length and 112 feet in width. The tower is 139 feet high. Cartmell Priory Church comes next, being 159 feet long and 111 feet across the transept. The highest spires in Lancashire are at St. Walburg's Roman Catholic Church, Preston, 303 feet high, and Warrington Parish Church, 281 feet high.

The small parish churches are disappearing and being replaced by larger and more healthy structures. The smallest I ever heard of was that of St. Lawrence, near Bonchurch, in the Isle of Wight. The old building was 20 feet long and 12 feet wide; the walls were six feet high, but the present structure is enlarged, and we must look for our smallest parish churches in the Lake District. The three smallest are at Wastdalehead, Buttermere, and Wythburn. I have seen them often, but am not quite sure of the measurements, though I think that of Wastdalehead

is the tiniest. I believe there are only sixteen souls in the parish.

C. B. W.

* * *

I have frequently heard the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, minister of Gairloch, Ross-shire, say that his parish is forty miles long and contains 5,000 inhabitants.

GEORGE CRAVEN.

Rochdale.

* * *

The smallest Churches in England are undoubtedly to be found in the Isle of Wight, namely, (1) Old Bonchurch; (2) St. Lawrence, both near Ventnor; (3) Yaverland, near Brading. The two first-named have been superseded by more modern edifices, but the last one is still used for public worship and retains its old pulpit and pews.

W. R.

MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

(Nos. 2,950, 2,970, and 2,977.)

[2,988]. Mr. BRITAIN's note respecting Mr. R. J. Lowes and the *Manchester Argus* is quite correct. The *Argus* was a newspaper and not a periodical in the sense suggested in the editorial foot-note. I knew Mr. Lowes well for above thirty years, and have a distinct recollection of his effort and of conversation with him about it, and also of the newspaper itself. The publishing office was in Bond-street, just close to the Athenæum. No doubt the effort was an ill-advised one, as Mr. Lowes had neither the staff nor the capital to command success. Previously to making this attempt at journalism on his own account, Mr. Lowes had been an *employe* on the *Manchester Guardian*.

C. S. GRUNDY.

LONGSIGHT OLD HALL.

(Note No. 2,975.)

[2,989]. Having just bought Longsight (old) Hall I may be able to say a word or two in reply to Mr. GLOSSOP's inquiry. The hall is now divided into two dwelling-houses, Nos. 436 and 438, Stockport Road. No. 436 is occupied by Mr. J. B. Dancer, optician, and was the residence for some years of the late Mr. S. M. Bradley, surgeon, one of the professors at Owens College. I have been informed that where Surrey Terrace now stands was the orchard of Old Hall, and it extended to the Longsight entrance of Plymouth Grove. The last who occupied it as a whole was (I think) Mr. Pickles, an iron merchant. The dining-room is panelled, but unfortunately has been painted. The entrance hall is fine, also the staircase. The kitchen is a very large one. The beams in the build-

ing are solid oak. I hope some of your readers may be able to give a little more information respecting it.

W. J. YOUNG.

Grove Terrace, Longsight.

QUERIES.

[2,990]. MANX WORD AND CUSTOM.—What is the meaning and origin of the Manx word Qualtrough; also the origin of the Manx custom "hunting the wren" on St. Stephen's Day? F. A. N.

[2,991]. DR. FOX AND THE EYE HOSPITAL.—Can any correspondent give information about Dr. William J. Fox, at whose suggestion the Manchester Eye Hospital was established in the year 1814.

F. H.

[2,992]. LONGSIGHT ABBEY.—The building erected in Plymouth Grove for the Little Sisters of the Poor stands on the site of Longsight Abbey, so called. I remember it being the residence of a Mr. Fernley, barrister. Can any of your readers give any information about it? WILLIAM J. YOUNG.

MEMORABLE SAYINGS.—How many of our readers will remember who it was that said, "Nothing is certain but death and taxes;" or, "We must all hang together, else we shall all hang separately;" or even, "It is better to wear out than rust out?" Benjamin Franklin said the two first sayings, and Bishop Cumberland the last, but we should be surprised to find anyone in a company of literary men who could have pronounced on the spot to whom any one of the three was to be attributed. On the other hand, we seldom misappropriate sayings containing much less that it is worth while to remember, if only they vividly portray a memorable figure,—like Frederick the Great's indignant, "Wollt ihr immer leben?" ("Do you fellows want to live for ever?") when his soldiers showed some disinclination to being shot down. The essence of the grandest sayings appears to be that in such sayings the speaker flings down his glove to all the forces which are fighting against him, and deliberately regards himself as the champion in some dramatic conflict the centre of which he is. Cromwell's "Paint me as I am," and the more elaborate, though not more memorable, "I have sought the Lord night and day that he would rather slay me than put me upon the doing of this work," or his reputed saying of Charles, "We will cut off his head with the crown on it," all implied his supreme conviction that he was the involuntary minister of a great series of providential acts. It is the same with Mirabeau's contemptuous thrusting aside of the part taken by Lafayette with the scornful remark, "He would fain be a Grandison-Cromwell!" and still more with his inflated, but still genuinely sincere, avowal in the Constitutional Assembly, "When I shake my terrible locks, all France trembles," and his brushing away of the thought "impossible,"—"Never mention that stupid word again."—*Spectator*.

Saturday, January 13, 1883.

NOTES.

HALFPENNY MORNING NEWSPAPERS IN MANCHESTER.

[2,993.] The experiment of halfpenny morning journalism in Manchester came to an end a fortnight ago. It virtually arose out of the establishment of the *North Times*, an evening Conservative paper, price one penny, the first number of which was issued on July 25, 1882. When it had been in existence nearly two months the proprietors started a halfpenny morning newspaper, under the title of *Latest News*, and the subsequent incidents were as follows:—

Latest News, begun September 11.

Morning News, begun September 14.

Morning Mail, begun September 14.

North Times, became a halfpenny evening paper September 25.

North Times discontinued December 15.

Latest News discontinued December 15.

Morning News discontinued December 30.

Morning Mail discontinued December 30.

The two last-named papers were issued by the proprietors of the *Evening News* and the *Evening Mail*, ostensibly for the purpose of supplying the public with the then exciting news of the war in Egypt, but they had barely started on their new career when Tel-el-Kebir brought the campaign to an end. The real reason of their appearance was, of course, the existence of the *Latest News*, and two weeks after its discontinuance they also dropped quietly out of sight. As a mere matter of history it should be added that the cessation of these halfpenny morning journals was received with entire indifference by the public, and no one has been heard to regret their loss. Of the *North Times* and its satellite, the *Latest News*, the *Liverpool Courier* (a Conservative daily paper) had an obituary notice, in the course of which it said:—

The *North Times* was to become the exponent of Conservatism in the north of England. It had offices in Liverpool as well as Manchester, and it began its fitful career on an altogether magnificent scale. After it had been in existence a few weeks as an evening newspaper—of course it was the "best newspaper in the kingdom"—it extended its mission, and also became a morning newspaper under the suggestive title of the *Latest News*. Thus its equipment was complete for success; in the morning it appeared as the *Latest News*, in the evening it changed its garb, and came forth as the *North Times*. But the adventure has not prospered. Either the public did not appreciate the "best newspaper in the kingdom," or the proprietors lost faith in it as a pecuniary

success, and grew tired of pouring money into an apparently bottomless purse. Whatever the reason, the adventure has collapsed, and the dual newspapers of Manchester are no longer published. They had a brief and not very glorious career of about four months, but in that brief space of time it is understood that the unlucky proprietors have lost £16,000.

MICHAEL ANGELO'S FRESCOS IN THE SISTINE CHAPEL.

[2,994.] When I was in Rome I heard of some way of getting near the gigantic figures painted by Michael Angelo on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. I asked one of the guardians how to effect this. He told me it was not allowed to go there, but, slipping into his hand some silver, I said I had understood that, yet I wished to know by what way they had gone. He described to me a certain little door, and said by entering that they went up, by ladders and stairs, over vaulted roofs to a steep stair which descended to a certain door. He finished by reminding me that there no one was allowed to go. So, thanking him, I set off. By his description I found the little door and entered. The way was difficult and rather dark, but I got to the stair. It was very steep and quite dark. At last I came against a door, turned the handle, and found myself close to the roof of the Sistine, a dizzy height, with only a ledge of about two feet broad going round, and nothing but a small iron rail to keep one from falling on the pavement below; the effect, too, on the nerves being heightened by the powerful action of the gigantic figures around calling to each other, so that with my weak head I found it was some time before I could move and descend to the ledge. At length, grasping the little rail and keeping my eyes averted from the pavement below, I went to the recess of a window opposite to a Sybil which I wished to study. There I sat down, and reaped the full reward of my venture.

The Sybil is very beautiful, the head turned so much over the shoulder as to be in exact profile, the turn of the head being so much that there was not the slightest indication in any way of the other eyebrow, or of the further nostril, but, drawn with such perfection of accuracy were the very small bits of the transverse lines where they crossed that of the centre, and which gave such a lively conviction of their course, that when I turned in another direction and then thought of the Sybil, it was with the firm conviction that I had seen both of her eyes. Such perfection of drawing can be acquired only by long and painful practice.

An admirable story is told of Michael Angelo, that when in his presence some others spoke of his heaven-born genius, he heard them with impatience, as if they were cheating him of his just meed, and saying that he had worked harder than any of them, he insisted that he had a real right to his superiority over them all. What that work must have been we can conceive, for I have only spoken of his drawing; but his conception, design, and sound feeling are more remarkable than his wonderful execution.

No man's works have been more unjustly looked at than that of Michael Angelo. It has been said that extravagance and exaggeration marked them all. Raphael seems to have thought otherwise. In this instance the beauty of every figure and the propriety of action throughout must strike every unbiassed beholder. Michael Angelo was, however, a matchless genius. To whatever end he directed himself he surpassed all. When the Pope appointed him to invent a firework, he designed one which has ever since been used. It is said that Napoleon, remarking the injustice done to Michael Angelo when a certain Pope altered the façade of St. Peter's, sticking his own name in the inscription, declared his determination to have the façade brought back to Angelo's original drawings, and an inscription just and true set up. What a pity it is that he did not stand to this instead of turning to his ruinous expedition to Moscow!

JOHN ZEPHANIAH BELL.

London.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"MILTON'S LAST VERSES."

(No. 2,986, January 6.)

[2,995.] Our great epic poet having notably referred to his own blindness in *Paradise Lost*, and having also devoted to it two of his best sonnets, it seems a pity that minor bards cannot let the subject be at rest. The verses said to be "Milton's last" were written by Elizabeth Lloyd, of Philadelphia (cousin of Charles Lloyd, the friend of Charles Lamb and Coleridge); and first appeared in the *Friends' Review*, first month (January), 1848. The poetess meant them for a paraphrase of the following lines, which occur in Milton's *Second Defence of the People of England*:—

There is, as the apostle has remarked, a way to strength through weakness. Let me then be the most feeble creature alive, so long as that feebleness serves to invigorate the energies of my rational and immortal spirit; so long as in that obscurity in which I am en-

veloped the light of the divine presence more clearly shines; then, in proportion as I am weak, I shall be invincibly strong; and in proportion as I am blind, I shall more clearly see. Oh, that I may be thus perfected by feebleness and irradiated by obscurity! And, indeed, in my blindness I enjoy in no inconsiderable degree the favour of the Deity, who regards me with more tenderness and compassion in proportion as I am able to behold nothing but Himself. Alas for him who insults me, who maligns and merits public execration! For the divine law not only shields me from injury, but almost renders me too sacred to attack, not, indeed, so much from the privation of my sight as from the overshadowing of those heavenly wings which seem to have occasioned this obscurity, and which, when occasioned, He is wont to illuminate with an interior light more precious and more pure.

What qualifications the Oxford editor possessed I know not. A critic of 1848 says of the poem: "It is redundant in melody and deficient in strength. Milton's lines are the very reverse of this, especially in his minor poems."

Salmasius, an eloquent defender of the Stuarts, had taunted Milton with his blindness; and Charles the Second, it is said, followed suit, and pointed out that heaven had as a judgment struck out his visual nerves. "It may be so, your Majesty, but what about the head of your royal father?"

Referring, in conclusion, to the poem, it has since 1848 appeared about once in seven years as a genuine Miltonic relic. Perhaps it is too much to hope that the *Manchester City News* may now give it its quietus. XIPHIAS.

* * *

So far from existing only in MS., or even being comparatively unknown, this beautiful poem has been for many years inserted in a well-known *School-book of Poetry*, by Dr. Davis. To it is appended a note to the effect that, though ascribed to Milton, it is by a Miss Lloyd, of Philadelphia. R. F. B.

* * *

Elizabeth Lloyd, junior, a Philadelphia Quakeress in the present century, is the undoubted, though formerly the anonymous authoress of these beautiful lines, so often, from their intrinsic merit, ascribed to Milton. They, and other poems by this gifted lady, and her no less thoughtful-minded sister Hannah Lloyd, authoress of *Cardiphonia* and *Faithfulness*, were re-published in America, not anonymously, perhaps thirty years ago, in a volume not at present in my hands, and possibly but little known in this country. The lines in question, as they appear in this volume and elsewhere, seem occasionally to vary from those in the Oxford edition of Milton, having

probably been quoted from earlier and anonymous forms. Thus:—

Afflicted and deserted of my kind,
not "of my mind."

My vision Thou hast dimmed,
not "has dimmed."

Wrapped in the radiance of Thy sinless land.
not "sovereign hand."

The title varies from "Milton's Last Verses," to "Milton on his Blindness," and "Milton's Blindness."

In one version, the stanza beginning—

Lead me, Father kind,

does not appear. I would here venture to remark on the misleading effects of anonymous publishing. Others besides Elizabeth Lloyd, shrinking from publicity, have witnessed wrong ascriptions of their works; as in the case of Lady Anne Lindsay of Balcarres (afterwards wife of Sir James Barnard), whose exquisite ballad of Auld Robin Gray was presumed to have been written by David Rizzio: and who was even persecuted to reveal whence she had obtained the poem, besides that twenty pounds were offered in the newspapers for the ascertaining of its authorship.

J. SPENCE HODGSON.

Altrincham.

MANX CUSTOM: HUNTING THE WRAN.

(Query No. 2,990, January 6.)

[2,996.] The custom in the Isle of Man of "hunting the wren" is of great antiquity, and is thus alluded to by the author of this reply in a volume entitled *Douglas and Other Poems*:—

But there's a custom in the Isle of Man—
How old I cannot learn—"We'll hunt the wren."
On Boxing Day—instead of following hounds—
Numbers of youths go gaily on their rounds,
With garlands on a pole, with ribands blended,
In which a wren is said to be suspended;
And, as they go from house to house along,
They sing the ancient Manx wren hunters' song.

There are two versions as to the origin of the custom, but I can refer to one only this week. Once upon a time, there was a very beautiful but wicked fairy in the Isle of Man, whose practice—sad to say—was to allure, by her bewitching beauty, the young men of the island into the sea, where countless numbers of them were destroyed. A noble knight, determined to put a stop to so fatal a custom, attacked with his sword the lovely but deceitful charmer, and was just about to sever her head from her body, when she became a wren, and, greatly to his disappointment, made her escape. She is compelled, however, to make her appearance in her transformed condition once in every year, on St. Stephen's Day, and it is to

prevent a repetition of her fatal practices that the youth of the island so vigorously persecute her. I hope to forward the other account next week, together with the meaning and origin of the Manx name Qualtrough.

J. M. S.

CUSTOMS IN THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUES.

(No. 2,972, December 23.)

[2,997.] JUDÆUS asks for information as to Old Testament authority for men wearing hats in the synagogues and women being separated from the men. I have been waiting in vain for some reply to be given, but I suspect that no such authority exists. If there be, it must be searched for in the Talmud, where probably it may be found, but not in the Old Testament. The Quakers also wear their hats in public worship, and the women are separated from the men; with them the bare head has no connection with devotion, and the separation of the sexes does not indicate any deviation from perfect equality. There are other Christian sects where the sexes are separated when at worship. This is the case, according to the newspapers, in the ritualistic congregation of St. Alban's, of London, so that as the system has got a footing in the Established Church, it may in time leaven the whole lump. What good can come from the practice I don't know, for the men and women will look at each other all the same notwithstanding.

The subject recalls to my memory a Jewish confirmation which I once witnessed in a synagogue. Dr. Gottheil, who is now in New York, was the Rabbi who conducted the ceremony on the occasion. The women for the most part were in the gallery, but a few sat on the front seats with the men. The neophytes, young men and women, occupied seats near the altar. The doctor's sermon or address was most admirable and practical, chiefly on the duty of children to their parents. There was in it little or nothing about mere doctrine. The ceremony was concluded by a touching and impressive sight. All those that had been confirmed went up to their fathers and mothers (who occupied the front seats), and, with evident reverence, expressed their thankfulness for the care that had been bestowed upon them during the days of their childhood. It struck me that this sort of confirmation is a better introduction to the duties of life than the repetition of a catechism or a declaration of faith.

THOMAS BRITTAIN.

QUERIES.

[2,998.] TAX ON MARRIED COUPLES. — Can any reader give particulars respecting a tax on married couples which was levied within the last fifty years in the principality? I am informed the tax was one shilling per annum; and should like to know when and why it was imposed, and when abolished.

A. B. O

Mr. George Howard Darwin, M.A., F.R.S., elder son of the late Charles Darwin, who is in his thirty-seventh year, has been elected Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at the University of Cambridge, in the place of the late Professor Challis. The Plumian Professorship was founded in 1704 under the provisions of the will of Dr. Thomas Plume, of Christ's College, Archdeacon of Rochester, who was an astronomer and mathematician of considerable repute. It is rather remarkable that there have only been seven professors since the first election in 1707, giving an average duration of tenure of exactly a quarter of a century. The first was Roger Cotes, and his successors were Dr. Robert Smith, the founder of Smith's prizes; Dr. Shepherd, who held the chair for thirty-six years; Mr. Vince, Mr. Woodhouse, Sir George B. Airy, the late Astronomer Royal; and the Rev. James Challis.

TEACHING THE ART OF READING.—If the art of reading is not found easy by children, their elders have found it still less easy to invent a thoroughly satisfactory method of teaching the rudiments of the art. Not to be possessed of the art, is to be destitute, as it were, of a sense, to be in a measure mentally blind. The grown man who cannot read has no other knowledge than that gained by his personal experiences, together with some reflection of that possessed by his circle of acquaintances. He is a member not of society, but of a coterie. Hence the paramount importance, not to himself merely, or even mainly, but to society, that every one should at least be able to read, that he may be capable of becoming a full member of it. The acquirement of the art must be most difficult to the immature minds of children. We may understand the difficulty, when we reflect upon the painful drudgery one has to go through in beginning to learn a language written in a different character from that of our own. On an average, an English child probably takes, at least, two years to learn to read with facility enough to make the practice of reading otherwise than irksome. Such, at least, is the case upon any system of instruction yet invented. The matter has not been sufficiently investigated, deductively or inductively. The first thing the compiler of an elementary reader should do, is to collect a child's vocabulary. A child of three will have a stock of not more, probably, than half a hundred words; of six, a hundred; of nine, from two to three hundred. With these materials, sentences should be constructed, and short stories and descriptions put together, of a nature to interest the little learners.—*Spectator*.

Saturday, January 20, 1882.

NOTES.

OLD TOPOGRAPHERS.

[2,999.] I for one am ready to admit that we owe a great debt to the old topographers. As in the pedigree of a knightly family it is a peculiar boast if an ancestor's name appears in some ancient battle roll or in the pages of our national dramatist, so the record of the busiest as well as the dullest place in the country is lighted up for a moment by a mere mention of it in the laborious peregrinations of Camden, Stukeley, Grose, or Pennant. In looking through these old-world histories one seems to experience, only in reverse order, something of the wonder of the old farmer who visited his native village after his long sleep of fifty years, and one is apt to be a little unjust to the faithful chronicler if the fact is not always remembered that he nowhere pretends to be a prophet, but simply describes what he sees.

The other day I picked up in Liverpool an old gazetteer of England and Wales, and in reading through it have experienced somewhat of the pleasures of perusing a book of travels into a foreign country. The author, who is unknown to fame, says in his preface:—"Few Englishmen have acquired such a competent knowledge of what their own country exhibits as to be able, when they travel, in any tolerable degree to satisfy the curiosity of strangers. It is presumed this work will somewhat enable them, and will prove amusing and useful to those natives who are desirous of forming some idea of the magnificence with which this island abounds, and bring to their minds objects which they have no opportunity of personally visiting." Of the population he says:—"The number of inhabitants in England is reckoned at five millions and a half; Scotland contains three millions and a half, and Ireland about two millions and a quarter. Among those computed in England are included about 10,000 Jews, Scotland or Ireland having few or any of them. These were naturalized by an Act of Parliament in a late Ministry, but the joint outcries of the nation had it soon repealed." Speaking of the revenue we detect a trace of that virulent antipathy to the Scots which is so marked a feature in the letters of Junius, published about the same time (1775), for our gazetteer asserts "that the whole kingdom of Scotland pays but £47,954. 1s. 2d. towards the land-tax, not sufficient

to pay for the places and pensions the Scotch enjoy." Of the trade of the country he says:—"The annual amount of exports in English and foreign goods is reckoned to the value of between six and seven millions sterling; whereas, on the other hand, all the imports do not exceed five millions, and as a great deal of this is shipped off again the yearly duties for foreign goods may be reckoned at £4,000,000. This foreign trade is hardly one-sixth of what the English carry on, for that upwards of £41,000,000 are given for their home goods and manufactures."

A book containing a list of all the towns and villages of England and Wales, as well as the houses of the local gentry, is a work of great magnitude; and one is not surprised that the topographer gained much of his information from county maps, a good deal from the works of Spelman and Speed, and a good deal also from hearsay and the talk of mine host. But wherever he got his information much of his book is now a dead letter, and the mere shreds of a vanished scene. One is amused in turning to a respectable authority, like *Paterson's Roads*, for instance, to see under the head "Warrington," that the principal inns of the town are "the George, Nag's Head, and Red Lion." Verily there is a tide in the affairs of inns, for two in this list have vanished. But in turning to our old chronicler of 1775 we find many places mentioned that the world now knows not. They have gone with the wigs, the small clothes, and the hangers of the period, leaving not a rack behind. For instance, what mortal knows "Ashpol, Lanc., near Manchester; Colledge, Lanc., south of Manchester in the road to Stopford; Whickleswith, Lanc., S.W. of Manchester on the river Irwell; Therlesbouch, Derby, in the Peak near the Three Shire Stones." All these places and many like them are vanished utterly; while others, then only in their infancy, are merely mentioned. Ashton-under-Lyne, we are told, is in "Lanc., on the right of Taume, between Claton Hall and Shawley Hall, 6 m. from Manchester." Oldham is in "Lanc., 6 m. N.E. of Manchester, has a fair May 2." Accrington is mentioned as in the parish of Whalley, which latter place is said to be "near Preston, and to have a bridge over the Ribble. Formerly it had a monastery." The accounts of Manchester, Liverpool, Preston, and Warrington are very curious, but are too long to be inserted here. With regard to Manchester, the reader is informed that "it is deservedly reckoned the greatest village in England. It contains ten times the number of people

that Preston has, and is said to return more money in one month than that does in fifteen."

Another curious feature of these old topographies is the way in which the position of some places is shown. West Derby, for instance, which we all know as a quiet unassuming suburb of Liverpool, is so frequently referred to as to give the impression that it was the golden milestone of the county. "Golborn, Lanc., not far from W. Derby; Atherton, Lanc., near W. Derby; Bedford, Lanc., near W. Derby; Agbury (Aigburth), nr. W. Derby." What can anybody make of these:—"Exton Burgh, Lanc., E. of Bank Hall; Green, Lanc., between Warrington and Flixton; Jerby, Cheshire, near the Caldees, between Dee and Mersey; Hill, Lanc., on the river Yarrow, near Charley?"

And so in wading through the book we continually come upon traces of a vanished hand and the sound of a mind that is still; other men, other manners. In two hundred years from now, when our mills and workshope are shapeless heaps, our roads covered with thick turf, and the deer and wild cat once more roam through the rejuvenized forest, how strange it will appear to the New Zealander who visits these parts to read of the cotton industry, the network of communications, and the busy markets of this nineteenth century. He, indeed, will contemplate with pride the harvest of his own nation, but he will also look upon the scene of a past civilization with interest, and confess that in these days the old race was full of vigour, and succeeded in rearing mighty sheaves.

C. B. W.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"MILTON'S LAST VERSES."

(Nos. 2,986 and 2,995.)

[3,000.] When I asserted that the poem with the above title, as it appeared in Lewis's *Penny Readings*, was an imposition, I did not mean, and abstained from assuming, that it was Milton's. A fortnight ago I was not aware, or had forgotten, that the Oxford version was itself imperfect; and if it was copied from the *Friends' Review*, as last week's correspondence seems to indicate, then the *Manchester City News* has the honour of being the first to publish the complete poem, whoever may have been the author. The original title was, "Lines Supposed to have been Written by Milton in his Old Age."

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

CUSTOMS IN THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUE.

(Nos. 2,972 and 2,997.)

[3,001.] There is no direct authority in the Talmud or elsewhere for men to wear their hats in synagogue. It is merely a custom brought by the Jews from the East. It will be remembered that when Moses was before the burning bush the voice commanded him to remove his shoes from off his feet as he was on holy ground. The custom of removing the shoes on entering a place of worship was the ordinary form of showing respect for the holy place by all eastern nations. When the Jews came to the West this custom was gradually dropped, and although the original ceremony was no longer performed, yet the Christian custom of removing the hat was not, for obvious reasons, adopted. The only sign of respect made by a Jew on entering the synagogue is an obeisance to the ark as containing the scrolls of the Word of God, and a short prayer beginning, "How beautiful are thy tents, O Israel." Many persons, especially the more orthodox, kiss the curtain before the ark, not in token of any adoration of either ark or curtain, but as evincing a reverence for the Holy Law which the ark contains.

The practice of separating the sexes during public worship is another Eastern custom, and has been founded, not on doctrine or religious grounds, but as a mere preservation of that decency and decorum which should obtain in a place of worship. During the marriage ceremony and the ceremony of confirmation, the ladies of the families concerned are permitted to remain in the body of the synagogue in the "reform" congregations generally, and sometimes in the orthodox synagogue. It was the custom in the old synagogues to have a lattice work on the galleries, so that the ladies could not be seen by the men below. It is only in the "reform" and one or two "advanced" synagogues where this practice has not been followed.

FRED. M. HYMAN.

* * *

I can remember the separation of the sexes in a country parish church in Devon as far back as 1829 or 1830.

C. H. C.

MANX CUSTOMS.

(Nos. 2,990 and 2,996.)

[3,002.] Each parish in the Isle of Man has family names almost peculiar to itself, as the Clucases in Malew, the Corjeags in Michal, the Kellies in Lonan, the Mylechavanes in Ballaugh; and the word Qualtrough, which F. A. N. asks about, is the name of a

family chiefly settled in the parish of Kirk Chreest Rushen, and is supposed to be a diminutive of a Scotch patronymic, M'Walter. But is it Qualtrough that F. A. N. really inquires about? I have an idea that he means "quaaltagh," which is a different thing altogether, being equivalent to the Lancashire custom of "lettin' th' new yer in." Literally it means "one who meets;" but, generally, and especially at Christmas time, it is applied to persons who go about "on the quaaltagh" to their neighbours, and in return for their wishes of "a happy new year" expect either "a spread" or some pecuniary substitute. In some localities it is still customary to keep open house all night for any one who is "out on the quaaltagh." It is said, "two is quaaltagh, three's none." Formerly "the quaaltagh" sang the following greeting before being admitted, and it may be customary yet in some parishes, but it is obsolete in Lonan:—

Ollick ghennal errin as blein feer vie,
Seihll as slaynt da'n slane lught thie;
Bea as gennallys en bio ry-cheilley,
Thee as graih eddyr mraane as deiney;
Coid as cowryn, stock as stoyr.
Palchey phuddase, as skaddan dy-liocar;
Arran as caashey, seym as roayrt;
Baase, myr lugh, ayns uhllin ny soaylt;
Cadley sauchey tra vees shin ny lhie,
As feeackle y jargan, nagh bee dy mie.

For the benefit of readers in "the adjacent kingdom," here is a translation:—

May your Christmas be cheerful, your year very good,
May your life be all health and your household have food,
May long life bless your family, yourself and your wife,
And women and men dwell in peace without strife;
May you have goods and flummery, much stock and store,
With plenty of potatoes and herrings galore;
May your bread and cheese and your butter be plenty,
(Your cupboards and pantries for many years ne'er be empty.)

We pray you'll sleep well whene'er you lie down,
(May your bed be of roses your pillow of down);
And the tooth that is jumping ne'er disturb your repose,
Nor the troublesome flea settle under the clothes.
And then when, at last, death visits your house,
May you die as content as a stackyard mouse.

There is another English version, but I give the above as being, I think, more literal. "As feeackle (or fackle) ny jargan, etc.," may be translated, "May the teeth of the fleas be rotten;" or, as I have heard, "May they have no jaws."

There are also two versions of the origin of "Hunting the wren," one assigning it as a memorial of the martyrdom of St. Stephen, and the other alluding to the legend of a lost fairy deceiver who took the form of a wren to avoid being slain by her

pursuers. After the wren is caught (or anything for a substitute) it is shown round the country in the midst of a garland of coloured papers or bush of evergreens, and a song is chanted to a peculiar tune, the first verse (the whole is too long for quotation at present) running:—

We'll away to the woods said Robin to Bobbin,
We'll away to the woods said Richard to Robin,
We'll away to the woods said Jackey to Lan,
We'll away to the woods said every one.

Then they go on, "What to do there?" and "To hunt the wren" (or "ran" as they call it), and so through some twenty verses. HARROPDALE.

* * *

In supplementing my note respecting the origin of the singular custom of "hunting the wren," which, I understand, prevails in Ireland as well as in the Isle of Man, I have only to add that the following is the second solution of the question:—It appears that the Irish, hundreds of years ago, were on the eve of a very probable victory over the Danes, which, it is said, was frustrated by the alarm conveyed to the army by an insignificant wren, which was making its supper on the remains of a soldier's meal, which it happily found on a drum-head. It is, accordingly, with feelings of deep revenge that the wren is so bitterly persecuted once a year, on St. Stephen's Day. There is another reason, in the estimation of some, and that is that the feathers of the wren are said to be a safeguard against shipwreck. In a very readable work entitled *Notes on the Months*, it is remarked "that antiquaries believe the custom to be of Greek origin." But I have never heard why.

JAMES M. SUTHERLAND.

Douglas.

TAX ON MARRIAGES.

(Query No. 2,998, January 13.)

[3,003.] Referring to the query of A. B. O., the following cutting from *Sale and Exchange* is well worth preserving. It will furnish your correspondent with some information on the subject:—

QUEER TAXES.—A little more than a century back there was a proposal to tax funerals, and it gave rise to the following epigram addressed to George III.:—

"Taxed to the bone, thy loving subjects see!
But still supposed, when dead, from taxes free;
Now, to complete, Great George, thy glorious reign,
Excis'd to death, we're then excis'd again."

With the proposed tax on death may be coupled the tax which was once actually levied on births. It lasted thirteen years, dating from 1695. Every person not in

every "little stranger" that came into existence; but the nobility and gentry were subjected to heavier payments in addition, ranging from £30 for the eldest son of a duke down to ten shillings for a person having a real estate of £50 per annum, or personal estate of £600 or upwards. An old tax on bachelors, which existed contemporaneously with the last-named, was not heavy, and was possibly intended as much as a reminder of their duty (no pun intended) as a means of "raising the wind," which William III. so often stood in need of. As soon as a man reached the age of twenty-five he was liable to the tax, which was one shilling yearly until he took to himself a spouse. Widowers without children were also liable, and, besides the shilling, every person had to pay an amount according to his rank for the luxury (or otherwise) of single blessedness; thus, a duke or an archbishop was amerced in the yearly sum of £12 10s.; a marquis, £10; an esquire, £2 5s.; a gentleman, five shillings; social distinctions were nicely drawn then. Nowadays, probably there are not a few who would not mind being assessed at five shillings, or even a much larger sum, if it would give them the enviable distinction of "gentleman."

FRED. M. HYMAN.

QUERIES.

[3,004.] **THE FREE LANCE.**—How many weekly numbers were issued of the *Free Lance*, published in Manchester? What was the date of the last?

X. Y. Z.

[3,005.] **TOLL-HOUSE ON STOCKPORT ROAD.**—Can any reader inform me whether a toll-house existed within the last forty years near the Shakspeare Hotel, Stockport Road? If so, when was it taken down?

S. F. C.

[3,006.] **MILTON AND CHARLES THE SECOND.**—Can XIPHIAS say under what circumstances Charles the Second informed Milton that "Heaven in its wrath had struck out his visual nerves." We know that Milton had at any rate sufficient mental vision to see how unsafe for him would have been a visit to the restored Stuart Court. Are we then to believe that the Merry Monarch hunted out the obscure retreat of the great foe of his family for the express purpose of making this very scientific (pedantic?) remark?

OCTO.

[3,007.] **THE MERSEY DOCKS BOARD.**—What are the constitution and objects of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board? Are the Board a trust, or are they a company? Do they pay dividends, or is their revenue applied in reduction of national or municipal burdens? I have consulted several gazetteers and

other authorities, but the popular information regarding this Board appears to be limited, and I have learned little beyond the fact that they are empowered by an Act of Parliament. While the proposed Ship Canal is exciting so much attention it would be a matter of public interest to know something more of one of the important parties to the controversy that will for some time be carried on in this district.

SIGMA.

FOREIGNERS IN FRANCE.—It will be a surprise to many to learn that though there are upwards of a million foreigners resident in France, only 30,000 of them are English, as against 450,000 Belgians, 250,000 Italians, 150,000 Germans, 70,000 Swiss, and 60,000 Spaniards. This is attributed by the eminent political economist M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu to the fact that the English who come to France are confined for the most part to the well-to-do classes, and for this reason they have not increased at anything like the same ratio as the Belgians, Italians, and Germans who come to France to seek employment. Thus, in 1851 the number of English living in France was 26,527; in 1861, 25,711; and in 1866, 29,856; so that there are no more living there now than fifteen years ago. The Belgians, upon the other hand, were only 128,101 in 1851. So that they are nearly four times as numerous as they were thirty years ago; and a similar rate of progression has taken place in regard to the Germans, checked for a few years only by the war in 1870. The Germans resident in France in 1851 numbered only 57,061, now they are over 150,000; and the Italians have increased in numbers from 63,307 to a quarter of a million.

THE NEW RAILWAY BRIDGE: SINGULAR DISCOVERY.—A few days ago while some workmen were digging for the foundation of an abutment on the Salford side of the Irwell, in connection with the extension works at the Victoria Railway Station, they came upon a large hole containing the skeleton of a horse, and, at a little distance, between twenty and thirty pairs of bulls' and cows' horns. The skeleton was lying complete in all its parts, and, from the way the bones fell asunder, and crumbled under the stroke of the shovel, the body had evidently been buried many years ago. The beasts' horns were in a perfect state of preservation, and have been sold by the "navvies" to various customers for the purpose of being polished as ornaments. The loose soil in which the remains were found was about twenty feet below the present surface, and about thirty feet from the river bank; and, alongside the hollow, but about three feet above it, was found a pebbled lane or "yard," thus indicating that the horse and the horns were buried about three feet below the then surface. The probability is that the "property" was the proceeds of a robbery committed perhaps a hundred years ago, and on suspicion being aroused was buried to prevent discovery. From the nature of the soil on the river bank it would appear that the place was used as a tipping-ground for rubbish, and hence the appearance of the paved lane so many feet below the present surface.

Saturday, January 27, 1883.

NOTES.

SIX AND EIGHTPENCE.

[3,008.] Probably few, outside the legal profession, are aware that amongst the changes introduced by the new year is one which will tend to the disappearance of the time-honoured and familiar fee of 6s. 8d. By the order under the Solicitors' Remuneration Act not only is a percentage scale for conveying business substituted for the old method of charging, but in cases to which the scale does not apply the amount of the old attendance fee is altered. Although, therefore, the sum of 6s. 8d. will not entirely disappear from lawyers' bills, its appearance will be much rarer than heretofore. It would be interesting to know all the causes which have tended to fossilize in lawyers' charges a sum which, though once common to all classes, has dropped out of general use since nobles ceased to be coined. Doubtless the main reason is that immobility for which the legal profession has, until recent years, been famed.

W. H.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SPENSER AND LANCASHIRE.

(No. 2,846, September 16, 1882.)

[3,009.] AUTOLYCUS will find some interesting particulars relating to Spenser's residence in Lancashire in vol. xix. of the Transactions of the Historic Society, by the late T. T. Wilkinson, of Burnley, who gives some very interesting examples of the poet's use of local words in his various compositions. There is also a view of Spenser House, his supposed residence, near Burnley.

J. COOPER MORLEY.

Liverpool.

OLD TOPOGRAPHERS.

(Note No. 2,999, January 20.)

[3,010.] Some of the places named by C. B. W. as having utterly vanished appear on an old map I have before me, entitled "The Countie Pallatine of Lancaster described and divided into Hundreds. 1610." "The Colledg" is marked as lying a little to the south of the junction of the Irwell and the Medlock, and would apparently adjoin the Chester Road, which,

however, is not delineated on the map. "Whickleswith" appears to the south of the Irwell and to the west of "Holme Trafford." "Hyll" is, as stated in the Gazetteer, on the river Yarrow, S.E. of "Charley." "Grene" is marked as situate at the junction of the Mersey and the Glaze Brook, lying to the west of the latter. Is "Exton Burgh" the same as Everton? The latter village, which may be correctly described as E. of Bank Hall, appears in the map as "Earton." I do not find "Ashpol" anywhere. It is rather singular that these places should have so utterly and completely disappeared and their very names become forgotten.

W. H.

THE MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR BOARD.

(Query No. 3,007, January 20.)

[3,011.] The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board was constituted by Act of Parliament in the year 1857, the object being to consolidate the docks at Liverpool and Birkenhead into one estate and vest the control and management of them in one public body. The docks at Liverpool were previously in the hands of the Corporation of that town as "Trustees of the Liverpool Docks," but the dues received were applied exclusively for maintenance. The management had been latterly confided to a committee of twenty-four, nominated one-half by the Corporation and one-half by the dock ratepayers. The docks on the other side of the Mersey were originally under the control of the Birkenhead Dock Commissioners (afterwards the trustees of the Birkenhead Docks) and the Birkenhead Dock Company, by which bodies they were transferred to the Liverpool Corporation in 1855. Besides these docks the newly-constituted board acquired from the Corporation, on payment of a very large sum of money, the right to receive certain town and anchorage dues which had previously been levied by the Corporation and applied in relief of the borough rates. The board also acquired the Prince's Landing-stage, the Liverpool Observatory, and certain pilotage and conservancy powers. The dock estate is administered as a trust, it being forbidden to apply any moneys received to any purpose which does not conduce to the safety or convenience of shipping frequenting the port of Liverpool, or facilitate the shipping or unshipping of goods. The board is composed of twenty-one members, three being nominated by the Conservancy Commissioners and the remainder elected by the dock ratepayers. One-third of the

members retire in rotation every three years. The qualification for voting is the payment of rates by a British subject to the amount of £10 per annum or upwards.

W. H.

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE CUSTOMS: THE SEXES IN CHURCH.

(Nos. 2,972, 2,997, and 3,001.)

[3,012.] The custom of separating the sexes at divine service does not appear to be confined to the Jewish Synagogue, as it is carried out at the ritualistic church of St. Margaret, Prince's Road, Liverpool. At least such was the case two years ago, and I feel certain such still prevails. A writer in *Notes and Queries* (London). First Series, vol. ii., speaking on this subject, remarks:—

I note with pleasure that traces of this ancient usage still exists in parts of Sussex. In Poling Church, and also in Arundel Church, the movable seats are marked with the letters M. and W. respectively, according as they are assigned to the men or women. On the first Sunday in the year (1850) I attended service in Arundel Church, and observed, with respect to the benches which were placed in the middle of the nave for the use of the poorer classes, that the women as they entered proceeded to those at the eastern end, which were left vacant for them, whilst the men by themselves occupied those at the western end. The existence of a distinction of this kind in regard to the open seats only, affords strong proof, if proof were necessary, that it was the introduction of appropriated pews which led to the disuse of the long-established and once general custom of the men occupying the south side of the nave and the women the north.

It would be interesting to ascertain in how many of the Established Churches this custom prevails at the present time.

J. COOPER MORLEY.

Liverpool.

* * *

Only six years ago the old custom of separating the sexes in church was in force at Bishop's Cannings in Wiltshire, where the men sat on one side the aisle, the women on the other. And they may do so to this day. I understand the same rule is observed in other old churches in the same county.

ISABELLA BANKS.

* * *

I suppose there is no better established or more universally admitted fact in natural history than the inferiority of the female to the male. Controversies and contests there always have been, and probably will continue to be, about the matter, but they never have ended, and I venture to say never will end, but

in one way, namely, in the weaker combatant going to the wall. In the ninth book of *Paradise Lost*, Milton, in language beautiful as probably true, has told us of the bitter controversy between our first parents about the termination of which the book of Genesis has left us in no doubt: To Eve it was said, "Thy husband shall rule over thee." In accordance with this dictum the Jewish theocracy was constructed. No function implying discretion or authority was allotted to woman. In certain cases of infraction of the Law the punishment allotted to her was seven times that awarded to a man for the same offence. If a female inherited property it was forfeited if she married anyone not belonging to her own tribe; and if a widow, the next of kin to her late husband had the first claim upon her hand. If a man suddenly found he had made a mistake in the choice of a wife, all he had to do was to write out for her a bill of divorce, send her out of his house, and there was an end of the matter. In the great Temple of Solomon women were never allowed to go beyond the outermost court. He built a house for his favourite wife, the daughter of Pharaoh, outside the city of David, because the place was too holy for her. No one could be more compassionate, tender, and regardant of woman and her rights than He who for us reformed the Jewish religion, but He never thought of her as an apostle or teacher. Paul was very distrustful of women, especially widows. He would have none admitted "into the number under threescore years of age."

None of the founders of the other great religious systems of the East made any provision for the services of women. Mahomet had a tender regard for them, and ordered provision for them in several ways, but invariably in a subordinate capacity. He did not forbid them to enter a place of worship, neither did he enjoin them to do so. Except the Caaba, I have been in all the most sacred mosques (and many minor ones) in the world, during the time of worship, but I never yet saw a woman there, and I believe they are never permitted to be so. In no place—Jewish, Hindoo, Parsee, or Mahometan—in the East do the men remove their head-covering as an act of reverence; almost invariably with their feet bare, especially so Mahometans. I apprehend this and many other customs have their origin in climatic conditions.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

MANX CUSTOMS; HUNTING THE WREN.

(Nos. 2,990, 2,996, and 3,002.)

[3,013.] The superstitions respecting the wren in the Isle of Man and elsewhere are referred to in my work, *Traditions, Superstitions, and Folk-Lore* (1872). In chap. xi., page 237, is the following:—

The Manx wren, the robin, and the stork are supposed to be inhabited by the souls of human beings. Mac Taggart, speaking of the wren, says:—"Manx herring fishers dare not go to sea without one of these birds taken dead with them, for fear of disaster and storms. Their tradition is of a sea spirit that haunted the herring track, attended always by storms, and at last it assumed the figure of a wren and flew away. So they think that when they have a dead wren with them all is snug. The poor bird had a sad life of it in that singular island. When one is seen at any time, scores of Manx men start and hunt it down."

In chap. xii., page 246, the subject is further referred to:—

The wren, as I have shown in a previous chapter, is mercilessly hunted to death in the Isle of Man, although he partakes of the sanctity of the robin in most parts of England. Not so in Ireland, however. General Valancy says:—"The Druids represented this as the king of all birds. The superstitious respect shown to this little bird gave offence to our first Christian missionaries, and by their commands he is still hunted and killed on Christmas Day; and on the following (St. Stephen's day) he is carried about hung by the leg in the centre of two hoops crossing each other at right angles, and a procession is made in every village of men, women, and children, singing an Irish catch, importing him to be the king of all birds."

The wren is sometimes treated in a similar manner in the south of France. It is generally, however, regarded as a sacred bird, as in England and Scotland. To take its life, or to rob its nest even, in the Pays de Caux is regarded as a crime of such atrocity that it will "bring down the lightning" upon the homestead of the offender. Robert Chambers, in his *Popular Rhymes*, has the following couplet on this subject:—

Malisons, malisons, mair than ten,
That harry the lady of heaven's hen.

It would seem from these facts that the poor little bird has met with a somewhat similar fate to that of Odin and the rest of the Æsir gods, and has been transformed, occasionally at least, into a spirit of evil.

I remember well an old Lancashire rhyme which asserted that—

The robin and the wren
Were God's cock and hen.

CHARLES HARDWICK.

Talbot-street, Moss Side.

DEATH OF AN OLD MANCHESTER BOOK-SELLER.

On Friday in last week, Thomas Johnson, the well-known bookseller of Corporation-street, died in his seventy-third year. His last months were marked by a lingering and painful illness, from which medical aid could afford him little or no relief. His career as a bookseller is notable and interesting. At a very early age he was assistant to his father, whose premises were situated on the site now occupied by Hyam's clothing establishment in Market-street. The chief bookseller at that day was Mr. Charles Amberry, and his shopman was Mr. Henry Whitmore, who subsequently started a successful business on his own account. When Mr. Thomas Johnson married he went to Liverpool and opened a shop in Dale-street, in 1829, at a rental of fifty pounds per annum—considered at that time an enormous rent. His beginning was humble; a few books at the bottom of the shop-window, and a bed at the end of the shop, were about all the worldly goods with which he made his start in life. One of the Liverpool merchants, on the occasion of the sale of a bookseller's stock, observing that Johnson did not buy, asked him the reason, and on being told that he had no money, requested him to bid to the extent of £100 or £150, and he would find the money. This kindness to one who was almost a stranger enabled Johnson very shortly to accumulate a large stock of books, ultimately the largest stock in the country. He published a periodical catalogue, extending to 300 pages, which was sold at one shilling.

After a career of almost unexampled success, he was induced to begin as a publisher, which necessitated the removal to large premises. His first publishing enterprise was an edition of the collected works of Jacob Abbott, the American author, which had an extensive sale. This was followed by Finney's *Lectures on Revivals* and *Lectures to Professing Christians*, of which more than 150,000 copies were sold. It is calculated that during the period he was a Liverpool publisher he sent into the market more than one million books. He had the reputation, and it was perfectly well founded, of being one of the largest Bible dealers out of London. Ireland was the chief source of his supply. He paid periodical visits to Dublin to purchase at the pawn shops the Bibles presented to the poor (who were chiefly Catholics), by the agents of the Bible Society, receipt of alms was required to pay two shillings for

and which were nearly always pledged immediately after presentation.

Notwithstanding his great and deserved success he ultimately became a bankrupt owing to accepting duplicate bills to a large amount for a firm with which he had had extensive dealings. His father, Mr. Samuel Johnson, then a large publisher in Manchester, purchased the whole of the plant and stock from the trustees of the estate, and had it removed to Manchester, when he took him into partnership. For several years the firm was known as "Samuel Johnson and Son," but when his father retired to the Isle of Man, where he died in his eightieth year, Thomas had sole possession of the business. After a few years, however, he again came to grief, and the whole of his stock and plant was sold by auction. Johnson then began as a second-hand bookseller in Corporation-street, in a wooden building erected on a piece of waste ground, upon which the Trevelyan Hotel now stands. When the land was taken for building purposes Johnson removed to the shop in Corporation-street which he occupied for a number of years, amid varying and not always successful fortunes. However smooth and successful his first business years were, his latter ones were considerably disturbed by want of trade and ill-health. Prior to his death he had left his business for some time, and it is now carried on by his youngest son. He leaves a widow, four daughters, and two sons.

The fifth annual report of the Wigan Free Public Library states that the number of volumes is now 26,228, an increase of 896 during the past year. About double the number of books have been consulted during the year 1882 in the Reference Department as compared with 1881, but nearly 7,000 fewer books have issued from the Lending Library, and the reasons for this decrease, as stated, are remarkable. It appears that "the great popularity of the department is literally wearing it out. Upwards of one thousand volumes have been withdrawn, entirely worn out, and quite a thousand more are rapidly approaching the same condition; so that it is not the reading public to whom this decrease is attributable, but simply the inadequacy of the present Library Rate to replenish the losses caused by the wear and tear to which the department is subject." It is noteworthy that the Library Committee of thirty-six is composed in equal proportions of members of the Town Council and gentlemen not in the Council, the latter including the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.

Saturday, February 3, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE CUSTOMS: THE SEXES IN CHURCH.

(Nos. 2,972, 2,997, 3,001, and 3,012.)

[3,014.] It was the custom at Tabley Chapel, near Knutsford, for men and women to sit apart during divine service, and is still, I believe. There is an old saying in Cheshire in connection with it, that at Christmas gatherings, farmhouse parties, or festive occasions of any sort, be there too many men or too many women at either side the board, it is called a "Tabley Chapel." "Here!" I have heard an old farmer say on such an occasion; "get up some on ye; we mun alter this; it's a Tabley Chapel."

SARAH CASH.

OLD TOPOGRAPHERS.

(Nos. 2,999 and 3,010.)

[3,015.] A reference to sheet No. 103 of the six-inch Ordnance Survey shows "Whittleswick Wood" adjoining the Irwell, near Barton Bridge. Is not the correct name Quickleswick? B.

* * *

Wickleswick is now a part of Trafford Park, being midway between the Hall and the Lodge at Barton, and bounded by the Irwell. Formerly it was an independent estate, with its house or hall. At the close of the thirteenth century it was owned by Alice Quickleswick, who gave some lands in the village of Eccles to the Abbey of Stanlaw. The house (in common with the other halls or houses of gentry in the parish of Eccles) claimed a right to a settle in Eccles Parish Church, and at a meeting of the churchwardens thereof in 1595 "it is ordered that the highest settle upon the south side of the south out aisle, next to Mr. Brearton's chapel, shall belong to the house of Whyttleswick." In 1857 there was in the vestry of Eccles Church a plan of the chapels, pews, and seats in the church, with a list of the owners or occupiers. "No. 7, south aisle, for Whickleswick Hall." A wood in Trafford Park, which covers part of the site of the old demesne, is still called Wickleswick Wood.

Exton is less like to be Everton than Euxton (pronounced locally Exton), now a manufacturing village two miles and a half W.S.W. from Chorley.

JAMES BURY.

* * *

As part answer to "C. B. W." I have to say that

"Exton Burgh," or Exton, is a village about three miles from Chorley. It is now spelled "Euxton Burgh" or Euxton, and is pronounced by the villagers "Exon Bauth." "Hill" or "Hyll" is two miles from Chorley, and is now known as "The Hall on the Hill," or, as pronounced, "Th' Ho' a'thill." "Charley" is evidently the pronunciation of that day for "Chorley." "W. H." will see from the above that "Exton Burgh" is not the same as "Everton." The "Bank Hall" alluded to is not the mansion in Kirkdale; but one near "Exton Burgh," of which mention is made in the *Pictorial History of the County of Lancaster*, 1844, as follows:—"The townships of Maudesley, Bispham, Bretherton, and Ulnes, do not possess any object worthy of remark except Bank Hall, a fine old brick mansion in the style of Elizabeth, erected in 1608, once the residence of the family of Banastre." "Ashpol" is clearly the same place as Aspull, near Wigan. TRELA.

* * *

In regard to the Notes of "C. B. W." and "W. H." relative to obsolete place-names, I may perhaps be able to offer a little explanation as to those in the neighbourhood of Chorley, near which place, I believe, "Exton Burgh," as well as "Hyll," will be found situated.

The village of Euxton, pronounced Exton, lies to the west, between Leyland and Chorley; and "Euxton Burgh" has been generally understood to be that part of the district where the collieries are established. In the country around Chorley, burgh is spoken as "burth;" and on asking a pitman where his employment lay, the answer—unless a considerable change in language has occurred in later years—would be "at Exton Both." About the year 1812 the late Colonel Anderton, of Euxton Hall, had a horse named "Euxton" entered for the races at Manchester, and was greatly amused to hear his favourite spoken of in that town as "Yewxton." Burgh Hall and estate, south-west from Chorley, once formed part of the property of the Rygbys, a family of some note and affluence at the time of the Commonwealth. The Yarrow intersects the land north and south, and that part of the estate known as Birkacre—the ground of the birches—is situated in what once must have been, from its wood, water, and picturesque thickets, one of the most romantic of all the beautiful dells and valleys of old Lancashire.

"The Hyll" has a little of historical remembrance, and it may be well that I should here note all per-

haps that now remains as to knowledge of the ancient house. To the south-east of Chorley (Charley as stated in the gazetteer), about a mile out of town, to the left of the road on the lower rising ground approaching Rivington, may be seen all that is left of a structure once forming a mansion that probably took rank amongst the most notable houses of the gentry of Lancashire. "The Hill," or the "Hall on the Hill" (its now almost forgotten designation), has been so named for probably four hundred years or more, and the nakedness of its present aspect offers a very different appearance to that which must have been seen in the earlier centuries of its establishment, when a magnificent woodland growth covered these grassy undulations, sheltering many wild animals; and when a line of unbroken forest—still perpetuated at Chorley in the Saxon word "Ackhuist"—extended southwards from the bank of the Ribble for over twenty miles across the western country. The house of the Hall on the Hill seems to have been for about the last 150 years simply a farm-stead, the main building being taken down from time to time to supply the commonest necessities of repairs or construction around the place, until all of consequence that remained forty years ago, when I last saw it, appeared to be what had formed the main or central hall of the original building, and was appropriated by the resident farmer as his house-part or living-room; one fine window being still unaltered, on which some long-forgotten hand had traced in mediæval characters a few Latin lines.

The ancient boundary of the "Hill" estate appears to have been on the north partly the little river Yarrow, and on the west the extensive lands of the Standish's of Duxbury; the line of the present highway between Chorley and Horwich taking exactly this division. The Yarrow rises in the hills of Anglezark and Heath Charnock, forming itself into two branches at Yarrow bridge, and flows on by Eccleston and Croston into the Douglas. Is it not a little singular that we have here, in the heart of Lancashire, the names of these two celebrated Scottish rivers?

The Yarrow at Cowling bridge, or Crosse Hall, Chorley, is the stream that supplied the former celebrated print-works of Hole, Wilkinson, and Potter, in whose Manchester warehouse Samuel Bamford found employment; and, as he states in his *Life of a Radical*, whose prints were in such demand that buyers adventured on the road by which the laden cart must enter the town (and which then led

through Wigan) in order to forestall purchases; by which, sometimes, the whole burden was bespoken before entering the warehouse. Later, Croase Hall was no less widely known as the works of which Charles Cobden was master.

Half a century ago the remains of gardens and pleasure-grounds, laid out many generations before, could still be observed, the terraced heights still defined on the slopes and irregular pasturages, although necessity and the plough had obliterated every other vestige of former elegance and prosperity, except that the line of the once far-reaching avenue of two miles or more was visible in ancient stumps and gnarled roots extending across the land in the direction of Wigan.

In the year 1570, from this house of Hall on the Hill, with pomp and ceremony befitting the event, the daughter of its owner, Thomas Asshawe, was led forth a bride by Sir John Radcliffe, knight, of Ordsall Hall, Manchester.

MARY ROBERTS.

Bristol.

QUERIES.

[3,016.] MRS. ANNE BRACEGIRDLE.—The National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead has undertaken, with the sanction of the Dean of Westminster, to restore the inscription on the gravestone of Mrs. Anne Bracegirdle, the actress, in the east cloister of Westminster Abbey, already partly effaced and fast becoming wholly obliterated. It has been decided to cut a fresh inscription, and we are anxious to copy the original wording. Mrs. Bracegirdle died on the 12th and was buried on the 18th of September, 1748, aged eighty-five years. If any of your readers can send me a copy of the inscription, or give me information where it can be found, I shall be obliged.

WILLIAM VINCENT,

Belle Vue Rise, Lower Hellesden Road,
Norwich.

Secretary.

[3,017.] NURSERY SONG.—I shall be obliged if any reader can tell me the origin of the old nursery rhyme, beginning—

Taffy was a Welshman,
Taffy was a thief,
Taffy came to my house,
And stole a lump of beef.

TAFFY.

[3,018.] OLD HALL IN GREENGATE.—In Greengate, Salford, almost opposite the Industrial Dwellings, there stands, at a short distance from the thoroughfare, an old hall. It is a brick structure,

and as far as I can learn has been used for manufacturing purposes for some thirty years. At the present time it is occupied, and I believe owned, by Mr. I. Frankenburg, who is a maker of macintosh articles. Can any correspondent give any information respecting the place, as to the time when it was built, the name of the family who resided there, and any other particulars which may be of interest?

H. M.

LEIGH IN THE LAST CENTURY.

The picture of *Leigh in the Eighteenth Century*, which Mr. Josiah Rose has contrived to create out of the hitherto neglected records in the Pennington township chest, shows how much may be done by a skilful antiquary with apparently unpromising materials. Mr. Rose has written a really entertaining book out of the accounts of the churchwardens, constables, supervisors of highways, the jury lists, rate books, removal orders, friendly society certificates, and other similar documents. The facts recorded, and which furnish quite new materials for the local history of the district, have lain for years, unknown and unnoticed, in the old oak chest of the township. Two hundred years ago, when Mr. Rose takes up the story, the population of the then village or hamlet of Leigh was considerably less than five hundred persons, and for a century afterwards the growth was exceedingly slow. It was a long day of small things, and the incidents are necessarily of a primitive kind. Once or twice we get within the range of national events, as when Prince Charles Stuart stayed for a night with the bulk of his army at Leigh, but for the most part the narrative is content with the humble events and affairs of village life—the recasting of the church bells, the mending of the stocks, the payments for the killing of sparrows, and for the repair of the parish umbrella, the latter “a luxury which was to be found in few villages in the North of England.” “In 1758 one beast was slaughtered at Christmas, and overstocked the market. But thirty-six years later the population of the town had increased so rapidly that thirty beasts were killed for the Christmas market, and were insufficient to supply the demand. This sudden development of Leigh was due to the introduction of manufactures owing to the invention of machinery for the spinning of cotton yarn. With that invention the name of Thomas Higgs, or Hayes,

of Leigh, will always be associated, and the claim that he was the real inventor of cotton spinning by machinery is not easy to contradict." Thomas Highs is the only local notability whose name occurs in the course of the narrative, and Mr. Rose rightly devotes a few pages to him. For the rest, the annals are simple enough, yet they are all the story Leigh has, and if worth telling at all it is well that they should be told by a competent writer like Mr. Rose, who has evidently spared no pains to elucidate and brighten the dry facts and figures which he has drawn from the old official papers, and has succeeded in producing a curious and readable little history.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.—Her Majesty's ships forming the squadron on the West Indies and North American station are about to visit Puerto Cabello, off which place the body of Sir Francis Drake, enclosed in a lead coffin, was dropped into the sea. An attempt is to be made to recover the coffin whilst the fleet is in that port.

AGES OF KINGS AND QUEENS.—The *Almanach de Gotha* gives the following table of the ages of sovereigns and the date when they began to reign:—

	Accession.	Age.
Dom Pedro II., Brazil	1831	57
Victoria, Great Britain	1837	63
Francis Joseph I., Austria.....	1848	52
William III., the Netherlands	1849	58
Charles III., Monaco	1856	64
Nicholas, Montenegro	1860	41
William I., Prussia.....	1861	86
Louis I., Portugal	1861	44
George I., Greece	1863	37
Christian IX., Denmark.....	1863	64
Louis II., Bavaria	1864	—
Charles I., Wurtemberg.....	1864	38
Leopold II., Belgium	1865	60
Charles, Roumania.....	1866	47
Milan I., Servia	1868	28
William, Germany.....	1871	86
Oscar II., Sweden	1872	53
Albert, Saxony	1873	54
Alfonso XII., Spain.....	1874	25
Abdul Hamid, Turkey	1876	40
Humbert I., Italy	1878	38
Leo XIII., Pope	1878	73
Alexander III., Russia	1881	38

The ages of the following Empresses and Queens are interesting:—The Empress Augusta of Germany is 71, the Queen of Denmark 65, and Queen Victoria of England 63. The Empress of Brazil and Queen Olga of Wurtemberg have both reached sixty, while the ex-Empress Eugenie, whose name is still recorded in the place of honour in the calendar, is fifty-six. The three youngest are the Queen of the Netherlands 24, the Queen of Spain 24, and the Queen of Servia, twenty-three.

Saturday, February 10, 1883.

SOME REMINISCENCES OF DAVID WARD BANKS.

In the days of my youth, extreme youth I may say, namely between the years of five and six, I was sent to a school at Croft's Bank, near Patricroft, which was kept by a maiden lady and her mother, and continued there as a pupil until the marriage of the lady, which happened two or three years later. My recollections of these early school-days are shadowy, but I remember two masters; there was M. Paris who taught dancing, and from whom I learned to distinguish my right hand from my left, and there was a young gentleman who taught music called Banks. His uncle, Mr. Ward, was the regular teacher, but Mr. Banks came occasionally in his place. I did not take lessons in music then, and I have no recollection of Mr. Ward, but for some reason the image of Mr. Banks remains impressed on my memory as I saw him there on one occasion, probably because he did not look so much like a teacher as an older person would have done, but more like a youth not long left school, whom I could examine without any feeling of awe. I did not see him again for many years.

My own musical education, such as it is, began at Stockport under Mr. Hullah in 1843, when his system of teaching singing was very popular. A couple of years later I took to that modest and feeble, not to say rather dismal, instrument the flute—"the soft complaining flute," as it is called in the *Ode on St. Cecilia's Day*. After some three years of fluting I gave it up, and took lessons on the violin in Germany, with the idea of joining in quartett playing, and it was while there that I heard again of Mr. Banks. A letter from my brother told me of a concert that there had been at Hyde. I was informed that an uncle of ours had established a choral society, and had joined an orchestra to it, and that Mr. Banks, of Manchester, had been engaged to teach them, and that the concert at Christmas (1848) was a great success.

Soon after my return home circumstances took me a good deal to Hyde, where indeed I lived for a while, and I became a member of this new orchestra, giving up the violin and playing the flute, which happened to be more wanted. Mr. Banks' right hand

man I had known all my life. His name was John Potts, and he was formerly a hand-loom weaver of Gatley, at that part of it called Stone Pale. He was a very musical man, and in his earlier time had played the clarionet at Gatley Chapel while Thomas Heggibottom, the village grocer, played the violoncello. He also led the village band. When hand-loom weaving declined he went to Hyde and worked at my uncles' factory in the capacity of storekeeper, and he was the original organizer and teacher of the society, for my uncle was no musician, and his sole object at the beginning was to encourage what he considered was wholesome amusement for a number of the workpeople, though afterwards he took very great personal interest in it; and so from a small beginning a rather imposing society was formed, which for some time was a source of much entertainment and pleasure to all the neighbourhood, and really excellent concerts were given in the Concert Hall that was built for its use.

I had ample opportunity of seeing and admiring the remarkable patience and skill that Mr. Banks exhibited in the difficult undertaking of forming a respectable band and chorus out of very crude materials, and the rapidity with which he did it. The chorus, which numbered over a hundred, was in the first instance composed, to a large extent, of people who had no knowledge of music, and indeed there were few in each part who were even tolerable readers. In the orchestra the strings were fairly represented, but even they had much to learn. As for the wind, well!—the wind had to learn too. There were two flutes, two clarionets, two oboes, one bassoon, two trumpets, and two horns. They were slide trumpets and valveless horns—what a pity it is that the cornet has been substituted for the trumpet!

John Potts was ubiquitous. He had charge of the music, and distributed it, and did what music copying was required. When the chorus was being taught alone he sang with the bass; in the orchestra he played the first clarionet; and when he could sometimes be spared from this duty he took charge of the drum, a simple instrument enough to look at, but requiring some skill and judgment in its use. Out of these elements Mr. Banks prepared a performance of Haydn's *Creation*. The principal singers were Mr. and Mrs. St. Albans and Mr. Machin; the chorus was composed solely of members of the society. The orchestra was rather largely assisted. We had Mr. Seymour for leader, Mr. Robert Thorley on the

violoncello, and his brother on the double bass. A bassoon, three trombones, and kettle-drums from Manchester were also added. The third flute, which occurs once in the score, was undertaken by our principal oboe, a very worthy and painstaking man, but I don't think anyone ever made me feel more hot and nervous, in such a little space of time, as that during which his performance lasted.

He was not very flat either after all, and the concert was carried through without a hitch of any kind, and I had seen how it had all been worked up. When Mr. Banks began his lesson he meant work, and was totally absorbed in it. Nothing escaped his ear, and if one singer bungled, he would labour with the greatest persistence until the mistake was cured. Difficult passages were sung over and over again by the separate parts until they were got correct; none were left half conquered, but were thoroughly overcome by the exercise of inexhaustible patience. Thus the choruses were rendered at last with steadiness and precision. With the orchestra he was equally careful. He would say, perhaps, "Take all those with the up bow: again. No, all with the up bow. Lend me your violin," and he would show how he wanted it. He would often take a violin to show what was required, and occasionally, in the absence of our leader, he would play all through the evening, breaking off now and then to beat time with his bow, when necessary. He made the wind instruments play in time, and in tune too, at last, and he seemed to have his eye always on each of them. Now he would smile, now frown, now make a grimace; and so he made order out of what was little better than chaos. At each lesson, which lasted about three hours, he worked hard without a moment's intermission, and his work was thorough.

There were some rather ludicrous difficulties to be got over. For instance, the second chorus in the *Messiah* came out at first—"And Hay shall pu-ray-foy," which of course would never do. The difficulty of teaching a number of people to manage nice gradations of tone, especially to observe, and execute well, the "pianos" and "pianissimos" is well known, and also the tendency of amateur bands to overpower the singers; but labour conquers all things, and the commendation of one of the audience whose opinion was asked after a concert was well merited. "How have we gone on, Doctor?" said Mr. Banks. "Oh! first rate," replied the other; "I could not

help thinking of the words of the poet, 'Ye Banks and Brays, oh! bonny doon.'

The choir mastered the most popular of Handel's oratorios, the *Dettingen Te Deum*, *Acis and Galatea*, Mozart's *Twelfth Mass*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and *St. Paul*, and a great quantity of miscellaneous music, the *Macbeth* music, Bishop's glees, and I should think all the best-known glees, madrigals, and other choral pieces. The orchestra for their separate work had Haydn's and Mozart's symphonies and numerous overtures.

At this same time Mr. Banks had the direction of a series of popular Monday evening concerts at the old Free Trade Hall, which seemed to supply a want, for they were well attended. Before the Hall was pulled down there were given five "Grand Festival Concerts," of which Mr. Banks was the director, and he asked me if I should like to take the second flute to play with Joseph Richardson. This I did. One evening was devoted to Sir Henry Bishop's music, and he conducted in person. Mr. Banks conducted the others, which included a large and varied selection of music, vocal and instrumental. Mrs. Alexander Newton was there, and she sang the Queen of the Night's song from *Zauberflöte*, and Miss Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, and Miss Dolby, and Sims Reeves, who sang "Sound an Alarm," and numerous other performers, not forgetting Richardson on the flute and Nabig, who performed God save the Queen with brilliant variations on the bass trombone. I took the opportunity of having some lessons from Richardson, and found him a very pleasant little man. He was a great favourite with the professionals, and they called him "Little Joe."

Mr. Banks had several piano pupils at Hyde, of whom I was one. He taught on Logier's system, but he did not adhere to it exclusively or follow it in every respect. I knew a man once who somehow got hold of it wrong. He spent a good deal of time with machinery—a piano key that worked but made no note, and certain screws and other apparatus to set his hand and fingers right. The rest of the time that he had to spare he spent in playing scales, and he got to do them very well and to like them too. He ran them against time, tried his powers of endurance, and played all sorts of pranks with them, but though he lived to be an old man he never learned to play anything else. He was a bachelor.

The organ was Mr. Banks's favourite instrument, and his manner of conducting religious services was

marked by great good taste. He was not what may be called a dashing or brilliant organist, and in many cases he advocated the severest simplicity, though opposed to general custom. For instance, Mozart wrote some additional accompaniments to the air, "But Thou did'st not leave," in the *Messiah*, but Mr. Banks would have "no wind." He told me when I was playing it on the organ to accompany it with single notes. He said, "Handel wrote it with a violoncello accompaniment simply, and if you add anything at all you spoil it." I think he was right.

I went with him once to a chapel in Salford where he was organist. He was organist afterwards for some time at Gee Cross Chapel, where I took lessons from him. The old organ was of a kind that was common at that time, the great organ manual extending to G G G in the bass, and the pedals, to the extent of something over an octave only, merely pulled down the lower keys. The old pedals were removed under Mr. Banks's direction, and a fresh set put in their place with a compass of two octaves and a third from C C C, and a set of independent pipes for them. This was a great improvement, though still unsatisfactory from the awkward manner in which the C pedals coupled with the G manual, for in order to use the notes of the latter the pedal beginning with C C turns back to G G G, and finishes the first octave on the same note with which it began. An organ at the Presbyterian chapel at Bury was altered under Mr. Banks's direction in the same way. It seems strange that the true value and use of the pedals of the organ have only so recently been understood in England, while all the continental organs have had at least two octaves, and many of them thirty notes, since before the time of Bach. Happily all new organs are made on the continental plan, and those of the old type must be getting rare; whereas when first I took lessons on the instrument there was no organ where I lived on which my exercises could be played, though I had permission to use three.

Mr. Banks was well known in Manchester, and a notice of him has already appeared in these columns. I have, therefore, confined myself to a few personal reminiscences, which might be considerably extended. But I conclude by saying that all who knew him intimately must have been impressed by his good nature and kindly disposition, and his conscientious execution of work that he undertook; and that, as a matter of history, his work has probably

had considerable influence in the progress that has been made in music in this district during the last forty years.

LITERARY CLUB.

ANCIENT DEEDS: BISHOP BAYLY.

At the weekly meeting of the Manchester Literary Club on Monday last,

Mr. J. P. EARWAKER, M.A., exhibited a series of pedigree rolls, deeds, and seals, the property of Captain Egerton Leigh of the West Hall, High Leigh, the present High Sheriff of Cheshire. There are two old families of the name of Legh or Leigh living at High Leigh. The family of the East Hall is now represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Cornwall Legh, and the family of the West Hall by Captain Egerton Leigh. The two earliest deeds—between 1250 and 1270—were remarkable for their smallness, and from this time forward the size of a deed was generally in inverse proportion to its age. A very small bit of parchment sufficed 600 years ago for the transfer of large landed properties. The modern word "indenture" arose from the custom of having a deed executed in duplicate on the same piece of parchment, and the two copies separated by the sheet being cut in the centre in a wavy fashion. When any question arose as to genuineness of a deed the duplicates were brought together to see if the indentations exactly coincided. Mr. Earwaker also called attention to the seals, one being that of Phillippa of Hainault, and another showing the probable origin of the felon's head in the Davenport crest. There was a lease granted by Warden Herle, the will of Thomas Cogan, an early master of the Grammar School, and many other documents of extreme interest. These were minutely examined by the members present, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Earwaker (who is not a member of the club), on the motion of Mr. H. H. Howorth.

The principal paper of the evening was read by Mr. J. E. BAILEY, F.S.A., who gave an account of Lewis Bayly, a native of Carmarthen, who was born in 1565, and became bishop of Bangor. He was the author of a book called *The Practice of Piety*, which first appeared in 1612, and acquired an extraordinary degree of popularity. When John Bunyan married, his wife's fortune consisted of two books,—one of which was the *Practice*. Mr. Bailey exhibited nearly forty separate editions of the book, ranging in date from 1620 to 1840, and even this remarkable collection was not complete. An edition was printed in Algonkin for the use of the native North American tribes by John Eliot, the "Apostle to the Indians," and a copy of this had been sold for £90. In his latter days

Bayly seems to have been a good deal about court, and charges of simony and other matters were brought against him. He died in 1631, and was buried in the choir of the cathedral of Bangor.

Mr. W. E. A. AXON, who now took the chair, said that the president's unavoidable departure need not prevent those who were so disposed from discussing the interesting paper read by Mr. Bailey. Mr. Hardwick had told them that the light of genius was sometimes placed in a very humble lantern, and apparently the same remark would apply to piety, for it was evident that the bishop fell short of his own ideal, and might have warned his hearers to follow the light and not the lantern.

Mr. Bailey's paper, although enjoyable, was not debateable, and as no comments were offered, Mr. Axon jocularly called upon its author to reply.

Mr. BAILEY said he was not surprised to find that there was no discussion, for the paper did not admit of it. He would conclude by reading them some rhymes which had passed round the table:—

Oh! Eglington Bailey, you did it too gaily,
In teaching us piety's practice;
For though Bishop Bayly be the Puritans' Paley,
Our motto's *de rebus et actis*.

So vale et vale,
John Eglington Bailey!

It appears that the best prices received now for works of fiction are small compared with those of twenty years ago, which was the harvest time of novel writers. A correspondent of *Truth* says that Mr. Anthony Trollope received more than £8,000 for two of his principal novels written between 1860 and 1865. Mr. Wilkie Collins received five thousand guineas for *Armada*, before a line of the book was written. George Eliot made over £15,000 by one of her works, and there was not one by which she made less than £8,000. Miss Braddon received very high prices for several of her earlier works. At the present time Mr. Wilkie Collins probably makes most money by his books, but then he only writes at the rate of one in two years and a half, and perhaps the largest actual income is made by Mr. William Black.

NEW SECT IN THE HOLY LAND.—The February number of *Blackwood's Magazine* contains a sketch of Haifa, the seat of a new colony founded in Syria, just below Carmel, by a German heresiarch, Mr. Hoffman, who, with his followers, hold that the world is to be converted to Christ, and the advent of the Messiah to be brought near, not by preaching Christianity, but by men leading lives governed by Christ's teaching. When a community lives up to the Christian law, the Messiah may come. The sect endeavours so to live, and three hundred of them cultivate olives under Carmel, "doing a good stroke of business with Nazareth," and dwelling righteously in their clean, commodious village, among the Moslem, who, the writer says, used to swindle them, but now respect them greatly, and copy their agriculture, and aid them in it. The founder, Mr. Hoffman, now lives near Jerusalem, and the community has adopted no special law either of property or life.

Saturday, February 17, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER PERIODICALS: THE FIELD NATURALIST.

[3,019.] The *Field Naturalist and Scientific Student*, a monthly periodical, the first number of which was issued by the publishers, Messrs. Abel Heywood and Son, in the June of last year, has been brought to a close with the number for February, the ninth of the series. In a prefatory note the Editor (Mr. W. E. A. Axon) says he has "to confess that those for whom it was specially intended have not responded in the manner that was anticipated. The result has not been commensurate to the labour and time expended; and the task, although pleasant, is therefore brought to a close."

A DEAF AND DUMB WEDDING.

[3,020.] The following is a re-extract from a Manchester newspaper, the *British Volunteer*, of April 6, 1816. It is the record of a "wedding" in the days of Elizabeth. Not many deaf and dumb possess the gift of poesy, but surely the one referred to below had in him the making of a clever dramatist. The incident is suggestive of a day of romance in one's own life:—

Thomas Tilsey, of Leicester, to Ursula Russett; the said Thomas being deaf and dumb, for expressing of his mind instead of words, of his own accord, used these signs: First he embraced her with his arms, took her by the hand and put a ring on her finger, and laid his hand upon his heart, and held up his hands towards heaven; and to show his continuance to dwell with her to his life's end, he did it by closing his eyes with his hands and digging the earth with his feet, and pulling as though he would ring a bell, with other signs that were approved.

I should think so.

The *British Volunteer* was a little less than half the size of the *City News*, and was sold at sevenpence halfpenny a copy. MORGAN BRIERLEY.

OLD LANCASHIRE HIGHWAYS.

[3,021.] A hundred years ago there was not a single highway in Lancashire that anyone could walk along even for a mile with ease or safety. To-day I do not hesitate to say that the high-roads of South Lancashire are the best in the world. To get a faint conception of the condition of the roads a century ago one has to look into the literature of the period, and truly it is entertaining reading. Taylor, the Water Poet, made a *Penniless Pilgrimage* from London

to Scotland in 1618, and in his progress visited Lancashire. He passed over Blackstone Edge, and says: "I rode over such ways as were past comparison or amendment, for when I went over a lofty mountain called Blackstone Edge I thought myself in the land of break-neck, it was so very steep and tedious." Farquhar refers from time to time in his plays to the discomforts of the road. In the *Beaux' Stratagem* (1707) he makes a local reference:—

Enter Boniface. Bar bell rings.

BONIFACE...Chamberlain, maid, Cherry, daughter Cherry!
All asleep; all dead!

Enter Cherry.

CHERRY.....Here, here! Why do you bawl so, father?
Don't you think we have ears?

BONIFACE...You deserve to have none, you young minx!
The company of the Warrington coach has stood in the hall this hour, and nobody to show them to their chambers.

Vanbrugh, in his *Provoked Husband* (1726), has given an amusing and, I have little doubt, faithful account of the progress of a country family to town in their own equipage. According to the honest record of Moody, their serving-man, there was "nothing but mischief! Some devil's trick or other plagued us aw th' day long! Crack goes one thing; bawnee! goes another. Woa! says Roger. Then souse! we are all set fast in a slough. Whaw! cries Miss —; scream go the maids! and bawl! just as thof' they were struck! And so, mercy on us! this was the trade from morning to night."

Defoe, in his *Tour Through Great Britain* (about 1714), records in a characteristic passage his journey from Rochdale to Halifax. He had followed the course of the post-road from Liverpool, through Bury, to Rochdale, and says, though it was August, "the mountains were covered with snow," and when they got to the top of Blackstone Edge "it was not easy to express the consternation we were in. The wind blew exceeding hard, and drove the snow so directly in our faces that we could not possibly keep our eyes open to see our way; nor, if we could, was there any to be discovered except as we were showed it by a frightful precipice on one hand and uneven ground on the other." He also relates that the way down was frightful. In the valley they had to cross a brook knee-deep. Again they had to mount a hill, and again to cross a stream, and in a journey of eight miles they repeated this labour eight times, much to their discontent. The roads of the period were mere horse-paths, the chief advantage in following them being that they led along the higher grounds and so

avoided bogs. These trackways were usually impassable in winter, being narrow, and in many places so deep and miry as to be liker ditches than roads. Speaking in 1770 of what was probably the best road in Lancashire—that is, the great north road to Scotland—Arthur Young, in his *Six Months' Tour in the North of England*, says of that portion between Preston and Wigan: "Let me most seriously caution all travellers who may accidentally purpose to travel this terrible county to avoid it as they would the devil."

Now, if any modern reader would like to see a real bit of old road, we have got a specimen length in this immediate neighbourhood. To stand in the middle of it on a wet day will greatly assist the imagination, and the traveller will more readily realize the condition of our high-roads a century ago. It is called Ellis Lane, and is traditionally said to be a genuine portion of the highway from Manchester to Heywood. More properly, I should imagine it to be a remnant of the cross-road leaving the old highway to Rochdale at Lands End and joining the post-road referred to above at Heywood. The visitor may find Ellis Lane by proceeding from Cheetham Hill along the Middleton Road, past the Three Arrows Inn, to the fork at Lands End. Here he will turn to his left past a fold of cottages, among which he will not fail to notice one ancient lath and plaster house with the date "1636" very legibly inscribed on a great beam in the front. Going a few yards farther and ascending the brow he will see on his left a narrow, deep, dirty lane, which I beg him not to explore. This is the lower end of our old lane, but as it leads nowhere and is only a few yards long no time need be wasted on it.

Let the visitor proceed rather up the brow towards Bowlee, until he comes to a cart road on his right, and go up that to Rhodes Green, a melancholy patch of common with a disreputable row of cottages on one side and a farm-house, once the home of a branch of the Hopwoods of Hopwood, on the other. Crossing this forlorn patch of ground, which they say belongs to nobody (and, by the way, crossing it is rather an adventure just now), he will see at the bottom to his left a narrow, dirty, wet, deep lane. This is Ellis Lane, a real bit of old-world road-making. An old cottage stands on the left of the entrance, popularly known as "The Dungeon." How it got this name I don't know. On its front is a stone inscribed:—

"John and Hannah Howarth, 1782—The School." What this means I never could find out. There never has been a school here, so far as I can learn, within living memory. Proceeding onward a few yards the visitor will find himself standing amid the wet slush of Ellis Lane. It has been a little improved of late, and the visitor will observe with mixed feelings that, while the Middleton Commissioners have failed to make the road passable at all seasons, they have at least put up a new gaslamp in the middle, so that the wayfarer who travels this road by night can by its aid struggle out of the slough and gaze upon the surrounding scenery. This curious stretch of road is about 200 yards long, stretching from Rhodes Green to Bowlee. The roadway is about six feet broad. No attempt has ever been made to pave it, so that in plunging into it the visitor treads his native earth. The banks on each side are about twelve feet high, topped by ragged hedges. In wet weather a thousand little rills run from these banks along the path, and, meeting together at the bottom, afford an excellent opportunity for the traveller to wash his boots. These rills are not so objectionable as the fastidious visitor might suppose, for one evening I found a man lying across the lane with the water running over him. I called and shook him until at last he woke. "You are lying in the wet," said I. "O! thank you," said he, "I'm very comfortable. Let me alone."

Ellis Lane has the misfortune to be the boundary line between two parishes, Prestwich and Middleton, and this accounts for the fact that it is little better now than it was in the middle of the eighteenth century. Antiquary as I am, I should not be sorry if it were improved off the face of the earth.

C. B. W.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

OLD TOPOGRAPHERS.

(Nos. 2,999, 3,010 and 3,015.)

[3,022.] "Green" is Hollin Green, where a ferry over the Mersey has existed for hundreds of years C.f. Saxton's map, 1577, "Holling-grene;" Morden, 1695, "Holly Grene;" Palmer, "Hollyn Grene;" Bowen, 1767, "Hollin G.;" Murray, 1789, "Hollin;" and Baines, 1824, "Holling Green."

"Therlesbouch" is a lonely farmstead under Cat's Tor, near the Three-shire Stone, where the counties of Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire join. It is now called "Thursbach."

"Shawley Hall" is Stayley Hall, Cheshire.

"The Colledge" is most probably the one at Hunt's Bank, shown on the old maps as south of the river Medlock, instead of the Irk.

A. B.

NURSERY RHYME.

(Query No. 3,017, January 3.)

[3,023.] If your correspondent TAFFY would write to Mr. Roberts, of the Castle Hotel, Carnaervon, he would no doubt get the correct version of what he writes about. Some years since, when on a stroll through North Wales, I called at that house, and during the evening that subject cropped up. Upon repeating the lines as they appeared in the *Manchester City News*, Mr. Roberts corrected me and gave a quotation of about twelve verses, of which the first was as follows:—

Taffy was a Welshman,
Taffy was no thief
Taffy's mutton's very good
Also good his beef.

And so on for the dozen verses, all making out Taffy a very estimable sort of person.

E. C. L.

THE KILT.

(Nos. 2,722 and 2,728.)

[3,024.] Though I do not claim to be a Scottish Highlander, yet I think it right, in what I conceive to be the interests of truth, to offer a word or two in reply to the courteous communication of my friend Mr. J. COOPER MORLEY. I regret my inability to give the date of the *City News* in which the assertion referred to in my question was made, but I may state that it appeared under the heading "Topics of the Day," and read as follows;—"As for the kilts, without desiring to abolish that bit of sartorial picturesqueness, we are bound to say that tartan kilts are the invention of a comparatively modern London tailor, who brought the idea from France." There is here no mention of Lancashire. Strange omission. But let us turn to Dr. Hume's tract. His chapter on the invention of the kilt opens with this rather vague statement:—"Sometime *about* the year 1727 a company, *said* to be of Liverpool," and so forth. The italics are mine. The *Oracle* of February 25, 1882, quoting Keltie's *Scottish Highlands, Clans, and Regiments*, fixes the date of the alleged invention as 1728, while a recent issue of the *Globe* says it occurred about the year 1723. Which is correct? In my opinion none of them.

It may surprise some of your readers to be told that an anonymous writer in the *Scots' Magazine*,

1798, was the first person to give currency to the (as I think) utterly groundless and absurd story that the kilt was invented by an Englishman. I do not say the kilt existed before the Flood, but I deny that it was invented in the way set forth by Dr. Hume.

P. J. MULLIN.

Tennant-street, Leith, N.B.

OLD HALL IN GREENGATE.

(Query No. 3,018, February 8.)

[3,025.] With regard to the "old hall" in Greengate, Salford, this is the first time I have ever heard of it by that name. When I lived in it, seventy years ago, it was referred to as "up the yard," or may be the "new yard," for there was then one yard a little nearer the iron bridge, the proper name of which I think was Norton's Court, and up which an entrance to what was called the saw-yard. Off the house in question there was a saw-pit at one end of the yard, a cow-shed, a stable, and other buildings; and in front of all was the river. Standing with your back to the house this saw-yard formed the left of the premises, and was shut off from the more artistic part of it. The house was shut off from Greengate by two heavy gates. On the right of these gates, all the way up to the house, were stables, packing and making-up rooms, a logwood shed, and cutting-up place for logwood. This formed the right-hand side of the yard, leaving about thirty feet clear to the left which was occupied as carpenters' shops, wool room, and block-room; and then, standing back from the thirty feet line, were finishing shops, stiffening shops, wool-washing, and a store for coals and carrion, and where the men used to settle all their personal questions by a stand-up fight away from the interference of my mother, who was always against anything of that kind.

Now I come to the house, which faced down the yard—a magnificent place in those days. It was occupied by Messrs. Borrowdale, Sons, and Ravenhall, hat manufacturers, to whom my father was head man in all the departments there and in the outlying districts of Denton and Oldham. It afterwards fell into the hands of another hat maker, whose name, I think, was Hall, and from that time I know nothing about it; but there was a finisher of the name of Gee who, if alive, could give much information. Later on, I believe, he turned furniture broker. I do not know who was the owner or the builder; but when my father's health failed we left the yard and went to live at 64, Greengate. To this house was a cellar or

vault running under the yard where the carrion was hung, and one day, when my mother was in the vault, the weight of the half of a horse broke down the roof and confined her, and she had to be dug out, luckily uninjured.

I should mention that to the right of the entrance to the house as you came out stood the counting-house and private office. A grand old place was the office—bay windows all round and mahogany desk-fittings. Five or six clerks could sit at it in comfort. I had my eye on that desk when I fitted up my place at Snow Hill, London. To the right of this office, with rather a quick slope down, came the dye-shops, with any quantity of copperas, the river running at a level of fifteen feet below the level of the dye-shops, and about twenty-five or thirty feet below the level of every other part. The whole plant was built upon rock, with two or three cellars for the flood-water to play in before it reached the dwelling part. It often got into the dye-shop, but no higher.

GEORGE OUSEY.

London.

QUERIES.

[3,026.] "DRUMLIE."—Can any reader give the derivation of the Scotch word "Drumlie?"

M. G.

[3,027.] BOOKS ON REPUBLICANISM.—What are the best books to read which argue in favour of Republicanism?

B. W. J.

[3,028.] "A HAWK FROM A HANDSAW."—What is the connection in the expression, "We cannot tell a hawk from a handsaw?"

M. G.

[3,029.] MANCHESTER COMMITTEE OF TRADE.—Was the Committee of Trade which existed in Manchester in 1774 a permanent institution; and, if so, where are its records?

X.

[3,030.] RAINLESS DAYS IN 1882.—Will any of your readers who have kept a record in Manchester or neighbourhood please say how many days there were in the past year (1882) upon which no rain fell?

S.

[3,031.] SILVER PLATE.—Can some one tell me if it is possible to know the year in which articles of silver plate were made? Am I right in believing that the number stamped refers to the year of the reign of the monarch stamped next to it? How can the King Georges be distinguished from one another in their large wigs?

C. M.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS OF LANCASHIRE.

The weekly meeting of the Literary Club was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Mr. WILLIAM E. A. AXON in the chair.

Mr. EDWARD KIRK read the principal paper, which was entitled "A Lancashire Ramble, with notes by the way." He said that the baselessness of a complaint which had been made to him that Lancashire was used up for topics worth writing upon had been forced upon his mind by what he had seen and what was suggested to him by near proximity during an autumn day's ramble. He then described the route he took, and pointed out the old halls, ruins, rivers, old churches, and ancient earth works that crowded along the course he had chosen. He travelled by train from near Manchester through Wigan and Preston to Garstang; then taking that peculiar railway, the Garstang and Knot End line, he crossed Pilling Moss. From there he walked to Fleetwood, calling at Preesall, and he gave a description of the beautiful and mingled prospect afforded by that peculiar eminence. From Fleetwood he went by train to Kirkham, and then mounting "Shanks's galloway" again, walked to the Neb of the Naze, where he was ferried over the Ribble at the point where the Douglas falls into the former river. The walk over two miles of treacherous soap-like marsh at sunset was not lacking in risks to personal safety. Being rescued by a peasant, he found his way to the railway station on the Douglas, and from there reached Southport, whence he went by train home via Bolton. He travelled over 100 miles by rail and about seventeen on foot in the space of seventeen hours, during which time three Lancashire tidal and navigable rivers were crossed and several boroughs and market towns were passed. The writer named the chief points of interest on the route. Among the many old halls named were Trafford, Wardley, Morley, Standish, connected with the Lancashire Plot, Duxbury, associated with the name of Myles Standish, the fighting man of the Pilgrim Fathers; Astley, near Chorley, where Cromwell spent a night; Euxton Hall and Myerscough Lodge, where Charles II. stayed; Hoghton Tower, where James I. was a guest; Rossall and Maines, connected with Cardinal Allen's family; Scarisbrick Hall, Lathom House, famous for its siege, and many others of varying degree of note. Amongst the old ruins were Greenhalgh Castle, Cockersand Abbey, and Burscough Abbey. The scenes of several battles were passed as Wigan Lane and Ribblesdale Moor. A long list of warriors, eminent lawyers, divines, men of letters, antiquaries, scientists, and actors who were born or lie buried at some point along the route or were intimately associated with it was given. In connection with Rufford Hall, it was stated that the wife of one of the former owners, Harriet, wife of Sir Thomas Hesketh, the

favourite cousin of Cowper, wrote the story of John Gilpin in prose, which was afterwards turned into verse by the poet. It was also pointed out that the *Book of Sports* owed its origin to Lancashire during James's stay at Houghton Tower. A considerable amount of curious and topographical information was given. The writer, in conclusion, expressed the hope that he had shown that Lancashire was not "used up," but still offered many topics worthy the exercise of literary skill. She would not yield the past any more than she meant to give up the proud position of thinking a day ahead of the rest of this great, wonderful, and beautiful land of ours. (Applause.)

THE ASHBURNHAM COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.

The splendid collection of manuscripts brought together by the late Earl of Ashburnham, and consisting of nearly four thousand volumes, has been offered to the nation, and the Trustees of the British Museum are in treaty for its purchase. The price asked is £160,000. The collection is of unique value and rarity. In one volume there are no fewer than forty-four Anglo-Saxon charters, ranging in date from the seventh to the eleventh century—the text in Latin, the recitals of boundaries in the vernacular. There are several letters of Cromwell, and a return of refusals to pay ship money in Buckinghamshire, headed by the name of John Hampden and signed by assessors whose own names appear among the recusants. The Register of Hyde Abbey, near Winchester, written in the eleventh century, is crowded with Anglo-Saxon drawings of great historical interest, one of the most remarkable of which represents Canute and his wife in the act of presenting the great cross of gold to the Abbey. The gem of the collection is the Albani Missal, with miniatures by Perugino and other early Italian masters. The *Times* says that if this work were to come to the hammer £10,000 would hardly purchase it. The same paper advocates in strong terms the acquisition of the collection by the nation. "Last year," it says, "we saw with profound regret the manuscripts of the Duke of Hamilton pass out of the country; and yet that collection, rich as it is in artistic treasures, cannot stand comparison with the library which we now have the opportunity of obtaining. The Ashburnham manuscripts are five times more numerous than the Hamilton collection. They are rich in illuminations, rich in ancient codices in English, French, Italian, and Irish literature, in State papers, in charters, in monastic registers, and, indeed, in every class of manuscript which the artist, the scholar, and the historian can use with benefit. If these manuscripts are added to the national library, the collection in the British Museum will be the finest and

most complete in the world. It is painful even to think of the possible rejection of this offer; and it is well to remember that if such a calamity were to happen, the loss would be irretrievable. That the Ashburnham manuscripts will be sold is certain. If England refuses them, she will lose an opportunity which will never present itself again."

With regard to the Dante manuscripts in the Ashburnham collection, Mr. E. Moore, of St. Edmund's Hall, Oxford, who has carefully studied them, says there are no fewer than twenty-seven manuscripts of the *Divina Commedia*. There is not only no private collection in the world to compare with this, but of the great public and national collections of Europe there are not more than two or perhaps three which surpass it—viz., those of the Laurentian and Magliabecchian Libraries at Florence, and perhaps that of the National Library of Paris. It contains the oldest dated manuscript of the *Divina Commedia* in the world, viz., 1335 (with the exception of one or two whose dates are certainly false or forged). The British Museum has already an exceptionally fine collection of Dante manuscripts. It ranks at present eighth or ninth among the libraries of Europe. The collection of Lord Ashburnham ranks fourth, or, perhaps, even third. The combination of these two splendid collections would place the British Museum second only to the unapproachable Laurentian Library at Florence, completely surpassing even such grand collections as the Magliabecchian, the Riccardian, the Vatican, the Trivulzian (Milan), and the National Library at Paris.

ABOLITION OF BREACH OF PROMISE ACTIONS.—

A bill to abolish actions for breach of promise of marriage was issued among the parliamentary papers on Wednesday, "backed" by Mr. Caine, Mr. Bryce, and Mr. Buchanan (Liberals), Colonel Makins (Conservative), and Mr. Meldon (Home Ruler). It consists simply of the following clause:—"From and after the passing of this Act no person shall be entitled to maintain an action in respect to the breach of promise to marry; provided always that this shall not apply to any action commenced before the passing of this Act." The date fixed for its introduction is the sixth of June. Commenting upon the bill the *Women's Suffrage Journal* says, "This is a measure for destroying one of the legal safeguards against a very cruel injury to which women are liable. While there is this attempt to abolish the action for damages for the loss of the means of maintenance afforded to a woman by marriage, and for the wound to her feelings which presumably will hinder the formation of any new connection, there is no attempt to abolish the husband's action for damages in divorce cases. It would, therefore, appear that the Legislature which is to be asked to remove protection to women on the sentimental ground of objection to allowing compensation in money for a woman's wounded affections, is not too sentimental to maintain pecuniary compensation for a man's wounded honour."

Saturday, February 24, 1883.

NOTES.

THE END OF HANDLOOM WEAVING IN LANCASHIRE.

[3,032.] A historical fact which is well worth putting on permanent record is mentioned in the *Textile Manufacturers'* survey of the textile trades for the past year. This is the extinction of the handloom weaving trade in Lancashire, which formerly covered a breadth of twenty miles from the coast to Skipton, and employed many thousands in a congenial domestic industry. "It had long been in a decaying state," says the writer, "but its extinction has been hastened by the prohibitive tariff policy of the United States, in which its productions retained their best hold. There is scarcely a single manufacturer of handloom goods now surviving—we think not one—and the close of the domestic state of the cotton industry may therefore be put down to the year 1882."

A MANCHESTER WORTHY: JOHN CASSELL, THE PUBLISHER.

[3,033.] John Cassell, the eminent London publisher, is entitled to a prominent place on the roll of Manchester worthies. He was the son of a Kentish man, Mark Cassell, a mail-coach guard, whose occupation brought him northward in the early part of this century. In the year 1808 Mark Cassell resided at No. 10, Bradshaw-street, Shudehill, Manchester—then a somewhat fashionable locality. Readers of Mrs. Linnæus Banks's attractive story *The Manchester Man* will remember that "Madam" Broadbent's school for young ladies, one of the leading schools in the town, was in the same street. In 1813 and for a few years later Mark Cassell figures as landlord of that noted hostelry, The Ring o' Bells, in the Old Churchyard, a house much patronised by the numerous wedding parties from all parts of the country round Manchester who resorted to our Old Church to tie the nuptial knot. This house stood midway between the tower of the (now) Cathedral and the river Irwell, and its site now forms a portion of one of our busiest thoroughfares. It is more than probable that John Cassell, who was born on the 23rd of January, 1817, first saw the light in this house. His father's name does not appear in the few directories published between 1815 and 1829, but its reappearance in that for 1829 shows that the world

had not gone well with him in the meantime, and consequently his son John had to turn out, at a very tender age, to earn his own living.

Mark Cassell died in the neighbourhood of Hanover-street, in 1830, leaving a widow and four children, and about that time John was apprenticed to a joiner in Queen-street, Salford. It was during his apprenticeship that the temperance movement originated, and John Cassell attended the lectures then given at the Oak-street chapel. Here he attracted the notice of Mr. Joseph Livesey, of Preston, the great apostle of the Temperance cause, who, many years afterwards, said "I remember quite well his standing just below, or on the steps of the platform wearing his fustian jacket and white apron." In October, 1836, he found his way to London, arriving there with the modest sum of threepence half-penny in his pocket—his entire worldly wealth. Shortly afterwards he spoke at a Temperance meeting at the New Jerusalem School near Westminster Road, and was described by one who heard him as a "gaunt stripling poorly clad and travel-stained." The earnestness and ability he then displayed led to his appointment soon after as a paid lecturer at the charge of a benevolent gentleman who took a practical interest in the cause. Early in 1837, when he had but recently completed his twentieth year, he is thus mentioned in the *Preston Temperance Advocate*: "John Cassell, the Manchester carpenter, has been labouring, amidst many privations, with great success in the county of Norfolk, and is now passing through Essex on his way to London." He carried a watchman's rattle which he sprung as he went along to attract an audience.

His history from this time is pretty well known. As a publisher he was highly prosperous, and the character of his publications stamps him as a worthy follower of William and Robert Chambers and Charles Knight. Like these, his eminent predecessors in the dissemination of sound and useful knowledge, he was something more than a publisher, for though, unlike them, he did not enrich our literature by productions of his own pen, he acted a distinguished part in promoting on the platform the causes of education and temperance. He died at the early age of forty-eight, on the second of April, 1865, and on the same day died Richard Cobden, who, though a native of the pleasant county of Sussex, spent his best days in our city, and was proud to call himself "a Manchester man." John Cassell's mother, who

survived him about six months, is buried in the Wesleyan Cemetery, Cheetham Hill.

The career of John Cassell shows how, even in the most adverse circumstances, energy, sobriety, and earnest purpose will often help a man to surmount the trials and hardships that fall to his lot, and enable him to make the world better whilst he is in it, and

Departing, leave behind him,
Footprints on the sands of time.

DAVID KELLY.

Stretford.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SILVER PLATE.

(Query No. 3,031, February 17.)

[3,034.] "C. M." can procure the information wanted in Whittaker's Almanac, page 434. E.

* * *

If "C. M." will obtain *Hall-marks on Plate*, by W. Chaffers (published by J. Davey and Son, Long Acre), he will there find all the information he requires, and be enabled to fix the date of any old silver plate in his possession. I am not aware of any "number" in the "Hall" marks. The date is fixed by a letter varying in type for different periods. J. G. M.

RAINGLESS DAYS IN 1882.

(Query No. 3,030, February 17.)

[3,035.] The number of rainless days at Stretford was 142, and there were 223 days on which '01 of an inch or more of rain fell. Time of record, eight a.m. each day.

H. ROYLE.

Stretford.

* * *

No rain fell on 19 days in January, 14 in February, 17 in March, 14 in April, 21 in May, 10 in June, 3 in July, 15 in August, 11 in September, 12 in October, 5 in November, and 13 in December; making a total of 154 rainless days in 1882.

Y.

Marple.

* * *

Days upon which less than one-hundredth of an inch ('01) of rain falls are usually recorded as rainless days. The number of days upon which '01 inches or more fell at Withington in the year 1882 was 203, thus leaving 162 rainless days. Full particulars of the Rainfall for 1882 appeared in the *Manchester City News* of January 13, 1883, under Country Notes.

J. N.

NURSERY RHYME.

(Nos. 3,017 and 3,023.)

[3,036.] The version of "Taffy was a Welshman" quoted by the Welsh Landlord to "E. C. L.," was no doubt taken from a humorous and descriptive ode of eighty-four lines, "Punch to Wales," which appeared in the popular comic paper *Punch* October 16, 1869, beginning as follows:—

Taffy is a Welshman,
Taffy's not a thief;
Taffy's mutton's very good,
Not so good his beef.
I went to Taffy's house,
Several things I saw,
Cleanliness and godliness,
Obedience to the law.

These lines are also given in full, with a Welsh paraphrase, in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*, p. 190, and are there attributed to a former editor of *Punch*, the late Mr. Shirley Brooks. ONEZ.

* * *

The rhymes given by "E. C. L." appeared in *Punch*, and were from the pen of Shirley Brooks. From two of the lines of this version certain of our neighbours might take advice:—

He [Taffy] never lurks behind a hedge
To pay his rent with slugs.

The concluding lines are as follows:—

If all Victoria's subjects
Were half as good as thou,
Victoria's subjects would kick up
Uncommon little row.
And Punch, Incarnate Justice,
Intends henceforth to lick
All who shall laugh or sneer at you,
You jolly little brick!

WILLIAM HUGHES.

Albion-street, Miles Platting.

"A HAWK FROM A HANDSAW."

(Query No. 3,028, February 17.)

[3,037.] Shakspeare in *Hamlet* has preserved this saying for us. It occurs in the second Act, in the scene where Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, the courtiers, at the request of the King, try to pluck out the heart of Hamlet's mystery, and to ascertain whether he is really mad, and, if so, the cause of his madness. At the close of the interview, Hamlet says:—

You are welcome; but my uncle-father
and aunt-mother are deceived.

Guil. In what, my dear lord?

Hamlet. I am but mad north-north-west; when
the wind is southerly, I know a hawk
from a handsaw.

It is now generally admitted that the phrase was, originally, "I know a hawk from a hernshaw—hernshaw, heronshaw, or hernsew meaning a heron—and that it had been corrupted into the form given by Shakspeare before his time. A writer in the *Athenæum* of December 30, 1865, suggests that Shakspeare might have become acquainted, through North's Plutarch, which he is known to have used for his Roman plays, with the significations attached by the Egyptians to the hawk and heron respectively—the former was the emblem of the north wind and the latter of the south wind. "Hamlet," he says, "though feigning madness, yet claims sufficient sanity to distinguish a hawk from a hernshaw when the wind is southerly; that is, in the time of the migration of the heron to the north, when the hawk is not seen." It is not necessary, however, to go so far afield. There are many passages that show Shakspeare's intimate knowledge of hawking. Mr. J. C. Heath, referring to this sport, says that "when the wind is from the north, the heron flies towards the south, and the spectator may be dazzled by the sun, and be unable to distinguish the hawk from the heron. On the other hand, when the wind is southerly, the heron flies towards the north, and it and the pursuing hawk are clearly seen by the sportsman, who then has his back to the sun, and without difficulty knows the hawk from the hernsew." Finally, in this connection, it may be mentioned on the authority of Clarendon, that in Suffolk and Norfolk "hernsew" is pronounced "harnsa," from which to "handsaw" is but a single step.

That the phrase had become corrupted and lost its original meaning in Shakspeare's time is obvious—the comparison being supposed to be between a handsaw and a cutting tool (bill-hook) called a hawk. A plasterer's instrument was also known by that name. The curious thing is that Shakspeare, who evidently knew the original saying from his reference to the southerly wind, should not have written "hernshaw" instead of "handsaw."

Many old playgoers will remember the stir made in Manchester, some twenty-five or thirty years ago, by Mr. Barry Sullivan's first appearance on the Theatre Royal stage as Hamlet—a part which he studied and rehearsed here under the personal superintendence, it was said at the time, of Mr. Charles Sever—and the animated correspondence which took place in the press concerning his reading of the

hawk and handsaw phrase. Mr. Sullivan spoke it thus:—

I am but mad nor-nor-west; when the wind is southerly, I know a hawk from a heron.—Pshaw!

WEST MORLAND.

* * *

A "hawk" is a palette, used by plasterers. It is a square piece of board, with a round handle fitted into the centre, on the under side, and is held in the left hand, the trowel or float being in the right hand. The hawk serves the trowel as the palette does the artists' brushes or paints.

A handsaw is a blade of flat steel tapering in breadth, with a handle at the wider end, and serrated on one edge. The name is to distinguish it from the betty, bow, and other saws used by joiners.

I read many years ago statements trying to show that the "handsaw" was a corruption from "hernshaw," a species of Falcon; and that the comparison was intended to apply to Falconry or Hawking. But it is more likely to be correct as here given, for Shakspeare evidently knew the tools of artificers well, as he asks, "Where is thy apron and thy rule?" And, again, "We will not carry coals, for then we should be colliers."

L. L.

[How about the context, "When the wind is southerly?"—Ed.]

* * *

I have always considered the supposition of a corruption of "hernshaw" into "handsaw" as the most probable explanation. The proverb would thus read, "not to know a hawk from a hernshaw." The connection between hawk and hernshaw is of course to be found in the once favourite sport of hawking, the heron being a special object of pursuit, and the difference between the two birds being sufficiently remarkable to give keen point to the satire. Whether the word hernshaw, heronshaw, herringshaw, heron-sue (all the three latter forms exist to my knowledge) originally meant the bird or the heronry is doubtful. I think the first idea was that of the heron-shaw, or wood of the herons, the eyry; and that the secondary meaning, which is the only one now known in the dialects, was a corruption.

EDWARD SUTTON.

131, Upper Brook-street.

QUERIES.

[3,038.] SIMON TRUSTEES.—Would it be within your province to afford information in regard to the above? What are the names of the trustees, and

what constitutes the trust? A clergyman has just been appointed to a church in this neighbourhood, the living of which is in the gift of the Simeon trustees. ZETA.

[3,039.] THE SKULL AT WARDLEY HALL.—Mr. Roby, in his *Traditions of Lancashire*, in the preface to the legend about Wardley Hall (vol. ii. p. 311), states that a skull (concerning which the story turns) “was formerly shown here beside the staircase, which the occupiers would not permit to be removed.” Can any of your readers, through the medium of your valuable journal, inform me when this skull disappeared or what became of it? OMEGA.

WILLIAM RATHJENS.

The Manchester Academy has opened its annual exhibition this week. Its members may be warmly congratulated upon the variety and the artistic merit of the work shown. On all sides may be observed a marked advance upon the last and previous exhibitions of the same society, excellent as many of them have been. We miss, however, the touch of one vanished hand. The flowers, fruit, and still-life pictures of the late William Rathjens, member of the Academy, which have formed so pleasing and so prominent a feature in the exhibitions of recent years, are no more to be seen, and their absence painfully reminds us of the great loss which the art world has sustained by the death of this talented painter. Rathjens, not being a Lancashire man by birth, and only having lived a comparatively short time in Manchester, was not so well known in this district as most of his contemporaries. A brief sketch of his life and labours may, therefore, at this time be neither inopportune nor unwelcome.

William Rathjens was born at Altona, near Hamburg, on the 18th of November, 1842. He was the son of a merchant in Hamburg, who intended him to follow a commercial career, and when William was growing into manhood he was placed in his father's office. It soon became evident, however, that this occupation was distasteful to him; he had a great love for poetry, music, and painting, and yearned after an artist's life. When it became evident, after a short time in his father's office, that he showed no inclination for commercial pursuits, he was sent to Dusseldorf to study painting. The Dusseldorf School of Painting was, however, not to his taste, and, after

studying some time there, he went to Paris, where he found what he wanted, and made the personal acquaintance of many distinguished painters and musicians. Having a fine eye for colour and the harmonies of colour he became an earnest admirer of the great French painters, and associated with many of them at Fontainebleau and elsewhere; Corot, Rousseau, Jules Dupré, Daubigny, Troyon, Fantin, and Diaz (who although a Spaniard was French in his art, by residence in Paris and by association) were his especial favourites.

Rathjens' father died in 1863, and this caused him to return home to Hamburg after a stay in Paris of little over a year. He remained only a short time at home, and then went to South America, where he lived about four years, spending his time principally in the study of music; his chief amusements being hunting in the interior of Chili and riding over wild tracts of the country. He enjoyed the beauties of nature thoroughly, and his stay in South America made a lasting impression upon him. This kind of life, however, could not satisfy him. He longed to return to Europe, and after an interesting voyage arrived at Hamburg in the year 1868, intending to resume his career as a painter. He did not wish to settle down in Hamburg, and after a short stay there, he accepted an invitation from his sister, Mrs. F. Prüsmann, of Manchester, to whom he was devotedly attached, with whom he resided with slight interruptions until his death.

On his arrival in Manchester he began painting, but being of a modest and sensitive nature, he had not the courage to exhibit his work until he formed the acquaintance of several prominent artists of the Manchester School and their friends who possessed artistic taste. These friends caused—one may say almost compelled—him to come before the public. In 1876 he was elected an Associate, and in 1877 a Member of the Manchester Academy, and his career as an artist and his successes are well known to the art world of Manchester, and to a much wider circle.

Early in 1881 the state of his health began to give much anxiety to his friends. He had long been troubled with a cough, but if anyone showed anxiety or spoke to him about it, he would say “It is nothing.” In the summer, however, he removed, by medical advice, to Lytham, and seemed for a while to derive benefit from the change. This, however, was not permanent, and he returned to his sister's early in the year 1882. After a few

weeks' stay there he was taken to Jersey, where he died on the 3rd of April last year.

The works by which Rathjens is best known are paintings in oil and in water-colour of flowers, fruit, and still-life subjects. In these he was unapproachable. Although he admired Fantin and his exquisite flower pieces, yet Rathjens was no imitator. His works have a distinct individuality, and he chose many subjects that Fantin would never have painted. These he grouped with a fine eye for colour, and painted with a delicacy of manipulation entirely his own. The six groups of wild flowers painted in water-colours which were exhibited at the last exhibition were fine examples of these qualities, and perhaps flower-painting was never carried to greater perfection than in these works. They were all painted at Lytham in his sick-room, from flowers mostly gathered by the poor fellow in his short walks.

Although he loved flowers, and loved painting them, he was ambitious of excelling in other subjects, and had his health been spared for a few years he would doubtless have succeeded. In a letter received from him by the writer shortly before he left for Lytham, after speaking of his health, which was not good, he says: "One thing I want to do is to paint a good landscape, and then by-and-bye a good portrait, for some stupid people seem to think that because I can paint a flower more or less decently, that it should be impossible for me to paint anything else."

Although reserved and quiet before strangers, yet among his friends he would talk freely of his experiences in Paris and his adventures in South America. He had a fine and delicate sense of humour, which gave piquancy to his anecdotes. Although it is somewhat foreign to the purpose of this brief memoir, yet it may be mentioned that he was at Santiago at the time of the dreadful fire in the Cathedral, and assisted in removing the bodies from the building. When *Faust* was first performed in Paris, Gounod was so nervous and excited that he dared not go to the theatre; so some of his friends including Rathjens, kept him company during the night, until another friend who had been to the theatre to see the performance burst in with tidings of the great success, after which the whole party went to a café to supper. One day when a company of artists, of whom Rathjens was one, were sitting in a room of a house at Fontainebleau, it came on to

rain. Nothing could be done outside, or seemingly inside either. There was, however, a fine handsome rose standing in a small glass vase; suddenly Diaz got up, and seizing a small panel and his colour-box, emptied several tubes of colour on the panel, then taking his palette-knife he manipulated the colours, and in a few minutes produced a grand representation of the rose, which Rathjens always said was the finest example of flower-painting that he ever saw.

Rathjens took a great interest in athletic sports. He was a skilled fencer, and was fond of the English game of football, which he thoroughly understood, and watched with unflagging interest throughout. He could give a better and more critical account of any game he watched than any which appeared in the papers devoted specially to sport.

Rathjens was an accomplished musician, and composed some few pieces, one or two of which he showed to a publisher, who thought well of them and the promise which they showed. He wisely advised him, however, either to devote himself entirely to music or to painting. As we have seen, he chose the latter.

In character Rathjens was a man of great refinement and delicacy of feeling. He was entirely free from the least tinge of coarseness, vulgarity, or meanness. Indeed his company had always an elevating influence upon others. To those who had the advantage of his acquaintance or friendship his untimely death, before he had reached the fulness of his powers, will long be felt as an irreparable loss. Peace to his memory!

S. B.

SHEFFIELD AND RAZORS.—The Sheffield water is said to be essential to the making of good razors. Several years ago a company of razor-grinders who went to America took a barrel of Sheffield water with them; but the barrel, of course, could not last for ever. Whatever the cause, the making of razors remains a speciality of Sheffield manufactures and almost a monopoly.

SINGULAR SERMON BEQUEST.—An extraordinary custom, which originated through a remarkable bequest, has just been observed at Downham, near Clitheroe. For more than two hundred years a sermon has been preached in the Downham Parish Church every year at the end of January. Sir Ralph Aasheton bequeathed an annuity of £4 for the purpose, £2 being for the preacher and £2 to be distributed among the poor. The money, however, was bequeathed on condition that no minister should preach more than once, and the sermon preached must be from one of two texts—namely, Colossians iii. c., v. 3 and 4; or Job xix. c., v. 25 or 26.

Saturday, March 3, 1883.

NOTES.

UNDERN OR UNDOBN.

[3,040.] In the *Lancashire Glossary*, part ii., the word Oandurth is translated "afternoon," and a quotation is given from Tim Bobbin illustrative of its use in this sense. It is there compared with Icelandic "undern." As it is a somewhat interesting word, a few examples of its use may be recorded.

In the Globe edition of Sir T. Mallory's *Morte d'Arthur*, pp. 144, 463 respectively, are the following:—

- (i.) But Sir Beaumains had no rest but wallowed and writhed for the love of the lady of the castle. And so, upon the morrow, he took his horse and rode until *underne*.
- (ii.) And on the morn at *undorne* Sir Arthur was ready in the field.

In Thomas Wright's edition of the *Canterbury Tales*, l. 16,708, there is this couplet (of the fox that was in 'bushment for chaunticlere):—

And in a bed of wortes stille he lay
Till it was passed *undern* of the day.

It is used in another place in the same work by Chaucer, with apparently the same signification.

Bailey gives Onedher, Aunder, as used in Cheshire in his time—roughly speaking in the middle of the last century—for "afternoon."

Perhaps some one of your readers who, like myself, cannot in his reading pass a word without exploring for its meaning, may run it to earth.

AUTOLYCUS.

SEVENTY YEARS AGO:—THE "NOBLE ART."

[3,041.] In the early times of the century, when I heard almost daily the cry that "Bony was coming," meaning Napoleon Bonaparte, the blood of Englishmen was at fever heat, and so was the blood of schoolboys, to a degree which it is difficult to understand in the present day. The noble art of fighting, or, as it was sometimes called, of self-defence, was highly popular all round. The workman who could thrash his fellows was a honoured hero, as was the schoolboy who fought and conquered his fellow-scholars. Of the latter I have a somewhat unpleasant recollection. After leaving the quiet dame school I became a pupil of a school of higher grade. On the first day of my attendance I was introduced to a smart little fellow who made it a point of duty to thrash every new comer. He was able to do it, and was the cock of the walk over about a hundred scholars.

Street fights were not the rare affairs they are now, and were looked upon with a large amount of approbation. Sunday morning was a favourite time for pugilistic encounters. The fields and outskirts of our large towns were the common scenes of such fights, often begun in a friendly spirit, but, as it may be supposed, not unfrequently ending in passion and punishment. I remember cases where fathers insisted upon their boys fighting, and, in one case, a poor lad who was beaten by his antagonist was afterwards thrashed by his father because he did not win the fight.

It has required half a century to cool down this hot blood of old times. We have still the bravery of Britons, but the exhibition of it is no longer matter of boast, nor is it respectable. As an instance of love of fighting I may refer to a case which occurred in Derbyshire about thirty years ago. A friend of mine was walking along a footpath in a field on a very dark night with a friend of his, when one of them stumbled over something in the road, and thought it was a log of wood. His friend, on giving a kick, found it was a man either asleep or drunk. The reply to the kick was only a grunt, upon which one of the gentlemen said, "I can make him get up." This was followed in a loud tone, "Get up! I'll fight thee." The man rose as if by magic. The kicks he did not care for, but the idea of a fight was a thing too good to be missed.

There is still something left of this love of brute force, but it is no longer honoured by public approbation. It is reasonable to hope that education in its highest sense will in time banish it entirely.

THOMAS BRITAIN.

LANCASHIRE IN 1775.

[3,042.] According to a contemporary authority, in the year 1775 Bolton was "noted for its medicinal waters, but more for being the staple of divers sorts of fustians." Liverpool, or, as my authority spells it, Leverpool, is "a populous town, and pretends to rival if not excel Bristol. The inhabitants are universal merchants, and trade to all foreign parts but Turkey and the East Indies." There are said to be three handsome churches; "the new church (possibly St. George's) is one of the finest in England." This is rather a sleepy reference, for I find there were seven churches in the town in 1775. Our authority goes on to tell us that some of the merchants have houses here which in Italy would pass for palaces. The wet dock (where the Custom House now stands) is "a

most noble expensive work, and perhaps the only thing of the kind in Britain, London excepted." The freemen of the town "are free of the city of Bristol, and also of Waterford and Wexford in Ireland." "The Mersey abounds with salmon, cod, flounders, turbot, plaice, and smelts, and at full sea it is above two miles over. (Actual width opposite George's Landing Stage, about half a mile.) There is a ferry here, and when people land on this side they are brought a little way through the water on the shoulders of men who wait knee-deep in the mud to take them out of the boats." As indicating the literary tastes of the town, I find in a list of subscribers to Middleton's *Life of Cicero*, printed in 1741, the names of two gentlemen resident here, "George Dickens of Liverpool, M.D.," and "the Rev. Mr. Williamson of Liverpool." These are the only Lancashire names in the list, which comprises several hundred subscribers.

Preston is put down as "a very gay place, with assemblies and balls as at York, not only from the variety of gentry that resort hither in the winter from many miles round, but from the residence of the officers that belong to the county palatine; and is called Proud Preston, though not near so rich as Liverpool and Manchester. The Earl of Derby has a grand house here, which makes a noble appearance."

Stockport was famous for its "rectory valued at £700 a year. In 1742 Parliament passed an Act for making a sluice or tunnel through part of the glebe belonging to it for conveying water to its mills. It is a town of good entertainment, with a bridge over the river which was blown up to prevent the retreat of the rebels this way in 1745, so that the King's forces, then in pursuit of them, were obliged to ford it up to their waistes. Naturalists have observed a rare plant here, called the cerasus, or small wild-heart cherry tree, and in the neighbourhood has been found the bolemnites or thunder-block in a freestone rock."

Warrington was noted as "a pretty large, neat, old-built but populous and rich town, famous for lampreys and all sorts of fish, flesh, corn, and cattle. It is full of good country tradesmen, and has a particular market every week for the linen called huckaback, the manufacture of its neighbourhood. It is said that £500 worth of it or more is sold every market day."

Wigan was "much inhabited by braziers, pewterers, and dyers, as well as weavers of rugs; and is most famous for fuel especially the channel [i.e. cannel] coal. Near this town is the Burning Well, so called

because upon emptying it the water bubbles up as if boiled, and a lighted candle being put to it, it presently takes fire and burns like brandy."

Who would now recognize these towns from the descriptions of the contemporary topographer? All, all have gone, the once familiar places. It is said that Carlyle, who started life as a schoolmaster, until driven from the village by indignant matrons, once revisited the scene of his labours, which had been converted into a corn warehouse. On being asked if he recognized the place, he replied in the negative. His companion informed him that it was his old school-room. Carlyle ran his eyes round the walls, and, after a pause, said: "You are right. There stood the dominie's desk, and here little Willie Brown sat, and there was Jamie Black's place, and I could people the whole room out of my memory yet." Such, possibly, might be the experience of our unknown gazetteer, if he could revisit the glimpses of the moon; but with regard to the towns referred to above, I do not think it likely he would recognize any of them. They have completely gone and a new world has taken their place. There is something, however, left of the race who created this new Lancashire. The desolate-looking, flat-topped hills are still here, but from their summits we look down upon a boundless prospect of lowland teeming with populous towns and studded with tall chimneys. The self-reliant and intensely practical men of our Lancashire valleys have converted this wilderness into the busiest hive of industry in the world. How long will it last, we ask, and is Lancashire only a gigantic mushroom, which is to pass away like other social growths at various periods? Time only can show, but I am fain to believe that there is an enduring character in our modern civilization. From every clock-tower in Europe has gone forth the knell of the feudal age. The industrial age has begun, and it is destined, I hope, to live untold thousands of years. C. B. W.

"ON THE NAIL."

[3,043.] I have seen the expression paying down "on the nail" gravely explained thus:—At a certain bank in Limerick, a nail with a broad head was fixed in the counter. On this nail all payments were made by customers, one after another in line, to prevent crowding and confusion. This may be true enough in this case, but the expression seems rather derivable from Chaucer's *atte nalé*, "at an ale," i.e., ale-house, where presumably there was no trust. Compare "for the nonce" = for the once. AUTOLYCUS.

CHAUCER AND THE MIRACLE PLAYS.

[3,044.] In the Miller's Tale of the *Canterbury Tales* a direct and most interesting allusion is made—in the North Midland dialect—to the Chester Miracle Play of Noah's Flood. No doubt in days when all except "clerics," or rather "clerks," as they were briefly called, were ignorant of reading and writing, and when the Scriptures only existed in "a tongue not understood of the people," the miracle plays, each acted on a separate pagina or platform by a particular guild, were the only source of biblical knowledge:—

"Hastow nought herd how savèd was Noè
When that our Lord had warnèd nim biforn,
That al the world with watir shulde be lorn?"
"Yes," quod this carpenter, "ful yore ago."
"Hastow nought herd," quod Nicholas, "also
The sorwe of Noè and his felaschipe
That he hadde or he got his wife to schipe?
Him hadde wil lieber, I dar wel undertake,
At thilke tyme, than alle his weatheres blake,
That she hadde had a schip herself alone.

The scolding scene between Noah and his wife, with its pantomimic effects, seems to have suited the homely humour of our ancestors in Mercenrike.

AUTOLYCUS.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE SIMEON TRUSTEES.

(Query No. 3,038, February 24.)

[3,045.] The founder of the Simeon Trust was the Rev. Charles Simeon, who was born in 1759, and became eventually Senior Fellow of King's College, and minister of Trinity Church, Cambridge. Having received a bequest of £800, "for him to do good with," from a testator whom he had never seen, and becoming possessed shortly afterwards of a sum of money through the decease of his brother, Mr. Simeon formed the idea of purchasing advowsons, which he vested in five trustees, with power of succession upon trust, to present faithful ministers to the livings as they became vacant. The scheme, which was largely supported by private individuals, who contributed considerable sums of money to enable Mr. Simeon to carry it on, was intended to secure to the livings earnest, evangelical, and spiritual clergymen, and seems to have been prompted by the coldness and apathy of the Church and her ministers during the eighteenth century. He laid out with great discretion the sums presented to him; and through the sub-division of parishes, and the multiplication

of churches, which has since taken place, there are now about sixty-three livings to which the right of presentation is vested in Mr. Simeon's trustees. The names of the present trustees are:—The Rev. William Carns, Canon of Winchester; the Rev. Edmund Holland, Benhall Lodge, Saxmundam, Suffolk; the Rev. William Cadman, Trinity Church, Marylebone, London; the Rev. George Edward Tate, Kippington, Sevenoakes, Kent; and the Rev. Field Flowers Goe, St. George's, Bloomsbury, London. Mr. Simeon died in 1836.

Whatever necessity there might have been for the trust at the time of its formation, there seems to be none in the present day, owing to the awakening of the Church to the spiritual necessities of the people.

W. C. BAILEY.

THE SKULL AT WARDLEY HALL.

(Query No. 3,039, February 24.)

[3,046.] The skull is still shown at Wardley. I have visited this interesting homestead twice. On my first visit, in 1873, I was fortunate in getting a peep at this singular relic, which is kept in a small locked recess on the right-hand of the staircase. It is the most prized of all the household gods at Wardley, and is believed to be the veritable cranium of the tipsy roysterer Downes, though how it got there, and why it should have been kept, deponent sayeth not. Wardley is a fine old quadrangular house, dating from the time of Edward VI., and is entered through an archway into an inner courtyard. The moat that surrounded it may still be traced. Over the entrance to the quadrangle are the letters "R. H. D. 1625." The "stag-parlour" is a fine old wainscotted room, with heavy oak panelling and carving, showing the arms of the Downes family, its former owners.

Wardley is not peculiar in its custom of preserving a relic of humanity as a tutelary genius. At Tunstead, near Buxton, a human skull, called "Dicky of Tunstead," is still kept in a cottage. This skull, said to be that of a female, is believed to possess extraordinary powers in punishing such as do not consult it upon even the most trivial matters. For instance, a market woman will ask "Dicky" whether she can go to Buxton. Silence gives consent, and she trudges off with her eggs. A burly farmer, with countenance like invincible Jove himself, may be seen consulting "Dicky" as to whether he is to get his hay in. Now, both the market-woman and the farmer believe that if they omitted that little ceremony nothing but

calamity would ensue. They point the unbeliever to a railway bridge close by, and inform him that—twice during its construction it fell a mere welter of ruins, because “Dicky” had never been informed of the surveyor’s plans. The third time, however, the attempt was made, the prerogative of the skull was acknowledged, “Dicky” was propitiated, and the bridge was successfully completed.

When we boast of our civilization let us not forget that we have still a “heathendom in Christendom” which will not be extirpated for many a generation. I know a schoolmaster, an excellent man and a clever scholar, who wears a gold chain round his neck as a charm against sore-throat, and always “lets new year in” at his own house, believing that if he omitted to do so some calamity would take place in his family.

C. B. W.

QUERIES.

[3,047.] OLD COURT HOUSE AT MADELEY.—Can any one supply information with regard to the history or age of the old Court House at Madeley, Salop? It is a ruin, and bears traces of great antiquity.

R. H. SUTTON.

[3,048.] HAMLET, THE KING, AND POLONIUS.—When Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are in quest of the body of Polonius, Hamlet, in reply to the question “Where is the body?” says:—“The body is with the king, but the king is not with the body.” What is the meaning of this apparently enigmatical answer?

F. H.

[3,049.] COROLLARY IN THE “TEMPEST.”—When Prospero is giving his final injunctions to Ariel with reference to the magic spectacle he is preparing in celebration of the betrothal of Ferdinand and Miranda, he says:—

Bring a corollary
Rather than want a spirit.

What is the meaning of “corollary?”

F. H.

THE LARGEST RAILWAY STATION.—Operations have begun by which, at a cost of a quarter of a million pounds, the New-street Station, Birmingham, will be converted into the largest railway station in the world. Messrs. Nelson, of York, are the contractors for the erection of the station, which will cover a total area of 45,000 square yards, or over eleven acres. The station belongs to the London and North-Western Railway Company.

Saturday, March 10, 1883.

NOTES.

SEVENTY YEARS AGO: JUVENILE GAMBLING.

[3,050.] In the early days of the present century there existed in many of our large towns an interesting system of juvenile gambling. In my native town this was chiefly carried on in connection with Banbury cakes, and the street cry of “Banbury cakes, toss or buy,” was one of the most familiar sounds to be heard in those days. Eccles cakes may have been offered on equally tempting terms to the boys and girls of Manchester, but I did not know this city even by name in those days. The authorities of those times—police we had none—saw no harm in the custom of juvenile speculation. The price of Banbury cakes was a penny each, and if a boy had but a halfpenny, the penny cake was apparently beyond his reach. To meet the difficulty the dealer said, “No! If you will toss up your halfpenny I will guess. Should I not win the toss you get a cake for a halfpenny.” If the boy lost he would go home to his mother a sadder but not a wiser boy, I fear, and beg from her another halfpenny for a second experiment. The kind-hearted parent could hardly refuse, and so the game went on. Many a time and oft have I seen the experiment tried, and I have a dim idea that I once or twice ventured to try it myself, but I did not find it pay, and the impression has ever since lingered in my mind that, in the end, gambling is not profitable. If I had friends on the turf they would tell me I should have persevered. Some boys did so, and halfpennies, one after another, went into the pocket of the dealer who still retained his cakes. It was not always so, for the law of chance must sometimes have been in favour of the boys. Happily things are changed now, and boys with halfpennies in their pockets and hungry watery mouths, instead of running out into the streets for a toss, have to wait for second halfpennies or be content with a smaller cake at the normal value.

THOMAS BRITAIN.

LANCASHIRE MEN.

[3,051.] The early history of Lancashire is of the most meagre description, and though from time to time some new fact is elicited by the patient antiquary the records of the county Palatine are, compared with some more favoured districts, uninteresting to the general reader. The history of Lancashire commenced when, about the year 1640, her people began

"to stand by cottons and coarse yarn." Ever since that time her manufacturers have taken a prominent part in nearly every great movement, and Lancashire men who before that day were almost unheard of, have been among the foremost in all the arts of peace. Yet we discover in the ancient records that the men of our county were, if not among the most illustrious, well represented in that second rank without which it would be impossible for the mighty leaders of men to exist at all. We can, indeed, boast of no Cromwell born upon our soil, but many a brave deed of arms and many a stroke for liberty has been given by Lancashire men. The traces of our old heroes are becoming fewer and fewer as time goes on, but no traveller can go through our county without being struck by the great number of old houses of the gentry, many of them built of lath and plaster, which are to be seen in almost every parish. Many of these were the homesteads of knightly families, whose sons, wandering into the great world, have doubtless many a time looked back from exalted positions with pleasure and pride at the old roof-tree amid the moors where their youth was nursed. It is, indeed a curious reflection out of what peaceful old-fashioned nooks have gone forth some of the most turbulent and most ambitious characters in history. I confess I see no incongruity in the fact. The old maxims were as strong in the days of the Black Prince as in more modern times.

Home-keeping youth have ever homely wits, and the custom so prevalent in medieval times of attaching likely lads to the service of some noble lord was indeed not only natural but perhaps the best means of training young men to maintain successfully the battle of life in their day. In the days of Edward II. Robert Holland left his native upland parish to serve in the household of Thomas the good Earl of Lancaster. His fortunes were various, but his son became Earl of Kent, and founder of an illustrious though unfortunate and short-lived race, who figured largely in the stirring events of the Wars of the Roses. They have, however, left few memorials in the county. At Bewsey, near Warrington, there still stands the old house of the Butler family, who, originally serving the Earl of Chester in that capacity, became possessed of broad lands; and we read in the pages of Froissart of a knight of this name distinguishing himself greatly in France. The old house is defended by a moat, and still boasts of a haunted chamber. As a boy I remember one day visiting another old Lancashire homestead, now demolished, called Bryn Hall.

It was the most forlorn and disconsolate heap of ruins I ever beheld. It was not even venerable in its decay. It was surrounded by a stagnant moat, and a part of it was inhabited by a collier. To what base uses may we return. This disreputable ruin once had a brighter day, and was for long years the home of the ancient and doughty Gerard family, now ennobled. At Radcliffe stands a ruinous pile, which in the ancient days was one of the most sumptuous houses in England. From this obscure spot have emanated more sprigs of nobility than from any other house of the county. One member of this family is immortalized in the old rhyme:—

The Rat, the Cat, and Lovel the dog,
Rule all England under the hog.

Royton, again, may be regarded as the cradle of the Byron family, whose very name smacks so strongly of the romantic. Other seats they had which are much more famous and worth visiting, as Newstead and Clayton, but their true origin is here. Perhaps no Lancashire family is more worthy of remembrance than the Asshetons, an ancient fighting race, who lived several centuries at Middleton Hall. Their old home was pulled down about forty years ago, and every trace of it has passed away; but the old church of St. Leonard's still boasts a series of brasses and other memorials of them which is worthy of more careful preservation than it receives. The series consists of five brasses, two of which deserve attention. The earliest is to the memory of no less a personage than the Black Knight of Ashton, who has left an imperishable name in our local annals. He it was who, by stoutly espousing the cause of the White Rose, acquired land and fame under Richard III. The brass represents Sir Ralph Assheton, his wife Margaret, and their thirteen children. Another old warrior is here commemorated, Ralph Assheton, companion in arms of Cromwell, and leader of the Lancashire forces at Preston. The hero is represented in the martial costume of the period, and bearing in his right hand a truncheon. His epitaph in Latin describes him as "Lord of Middleton, faithful to God, his country, and his friends, the brave and faithful commander of all the forces in Lancashire levied by the supreme authority of Parliament." Such are some of the Lancashire men of ancient days who have given character and worth to their native shire. Though few of us would desire their times and modes of life to return, still fewer would deny that they are types of a hardy, honest Saxon race, who have con-

verted the barren hills and bleak moors of south Lancashire within little more than a century into one of the richest districts of England; who by their skill, invention, and persevering industry have established the cotton trade, a branch of manufacture the magnitude and importance of which is beyond all question the most extraordinary phenomenon in the history of industry.

C. B. W.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE SKULL AT WARDLEY HALL.

(Nos. 3,039 and 3,046.)

[3,052.] I never saw the skull at Wardley, but once lodged for a few weeks with an old couple who talked much about it. It seems that remarkable and fearsome consequences ensue from the removal of the skull. Doors open and are violently closed by no mortal agency, while unseen presences glide and rustle through the rooms and passages. On one occasion, it is said, a rash individual, to whom a boggart was a thing of naught, defied its power and threw the skull into the moat, but the clatter and commotion and calamity that followed made this daring agnostic so uncomfortable that he was glad to have the moat dragged and the skull put back in its place, whereupon the din and disaster were to a large extent discontinued. It was found, however, that a tooth had been lost in the moat, and this will, no doubt, account for the moderate manifestations in which the boggart still occasionally indulges. The old couple I have mentioned told me that they knew a young woman (I believe it was their own daughter) who left her service at the Hall because of the freaks of this invisible member of the household. It must be, I suppose, that the skull is the outward and visible sign of an unseen and spiritual agent, who has determined that the skull shall remain where it is or there shall be trouble.

JAMES BAILEY.

"ON THE NAIL."

(Note No. 3,043, March 3.)

[3,053.] A similar expression exists in French: "Boire rubis sur l'ongle"—"To drink ruby on the nail," which is thus explained by Littré: "To drink and empty the glass so thoroughly that there hardly remains in it a single drop of wine, which when poured on the nail has the shape of a ruby." "Payer rubis sur l'ongle," which is derived from the preceding, means "to pay to the last farthing," and also "cash down."

P. J. V.

COROLLARY IN THE "TEMPEST."

(Query No. 3,049, March 3.)

[3,054.] The word "corollary" means a conclusion or inference, also a surplus; and it is in the latter sense that Prospero uses it when he says:—

Bring a corollary

Rather than want a spirit,

meaning bring surplus spirits, or more than necessary, rather than want one.

H. F. C.

* * *

Dr. Warburton, in his notes on the *Tempest*, gives the following meaning of the word corollary:—Corollarium, from which the word corollary is derived, signifies a supernumerary, or what is more than just sufficient. He says the word in this passage has a singular propriety and elegance. The corollaria were, amongst the Romans, gifts given to the people when plays were exhibited to them at their public festivals, and corollæ (crowns) were given to those actors who pleased the most.

J. S.

Wilmalaw.

"A HAWK FROM A HANDSAW."

(Nos. 3,023 and 3,037.)

[3,055.] Not much remains to be contributed to the elucidation of this passage. It may be taken as a rule that in all such cases, Shakespeare's meaning lies on the surface, and therefore the least-strained interpretation is probably the correct one. To know a hawk from a heronshaw is to distinguish the bird from its quarry—a matter that frequently requires no little keenness of vision during the contest in mid-air. The "handsaw" theory had, I thought, been relegated long ago to the limbo of misprints. Upon this point the editorial note as to the "direction of the wind" was sufficiently conclusive. It may be worth mentioning, as throwing a side light on the question, that, in the beginning of the scene with the courtierspies, the first metaphor Hamlet uses is borrowed from hawking—"My anticipation shall prevent your discovery, and your secrecy to the King and Queen moult no feather."

SIMPLEX.

DRUMLIE.

(Query No. 3,026, February 17.)

[3,056.] Philologists are not agreed on the origin of this word. The learned Professor Ivan Ihre, of Upsal, whose opinion on words of Gothic origin is very valuable, regards it as a mere corruption of the Suio-Gothic "grummel"—turbid, muddy. Jamieson, the Scottish lexicographer, does not accept this etymology; and your correspondent should consult his lengthy notes on the word and its allies and synonyms

e.g., dram, drammock, droublie, drublie, drulie, drum, drumble, drummock, grummell, grummlie, gummle, gumlie. Compare also the words variously written douiland, domland, and droubelonde in the MSS. of De Hampole's *Stimulus Conscientiæ*, the Philological Society's edition of which is accessible enough. Consult Gregor's *Dialect of Banffshire*, 1866; Edmonston's *Glossary of the Shetland and Orkney Dialect*, 1866; Ihre's *Lexicon Dialectorum*, 1766; and *Glossarium Suio-Gothicum*, 1769.

The form "drumlie" is usually preferred by Ramsay, Burns, Mrs. Cockburn, and other poetical writers, and is undoubtedly of considerable antiquity; yet in Buchan, the Garioch, the Enzie, and other small districts in the north-east of Scotland where the ancient language has lingered longest, the form in colloquial use is "grummlie." J. A. F. KELLAS JOHNSTONE.

HALL ON THE HILL.

(Note No. 3,015.)

[3,057.] I would supplement my former notice of Thomas Asshawe by a little further information of the family, scanty though it may be; and should be pleased if, from any source, more could be available. The first of whom I have mention is Roger Asshawe. He possessed the manor of "The Hill;" also lands in Heath Charnock, and other outlying property, dying about 1540, in the reign of Henry VIII., and was succeeded by his son Thomas, whose daughter, as before mentioned, in 1570 became the wife of Sir John Radcliffe, of "Ordshall neare Manchester;" the marriage, at the bride's paternal abode, being celebrated for a week previously with extraordinary feasting, and feats of woodland craft, of which the surrounding hills formed the scene. To Thomas Asshawe succeeded his son Leonard, who died in 1595, temp. Elizabeth, leaving one son, also Leonard, who exercised a great hospitality, as his forefathers had done, until 1634, in the reign of the First Charles, when, in the old home, he closed his eyes, the last of his name, and of the house of "Asshawe on the Hill." Since his time, this once manorial residence has not been inhabited by any person of consequence, and gradually fell out of consideration into its present state.

MARY ROBERTS.

Bristol.

"THE NOBLE ART."

(Note No. 3,041, March 3.)

[3,058.] Reading Mr. BRITAIN'S remarks under this heading brought to my mind some recollections of the craze for hurting one another that existed in

the farming districts in Cheshire. Of "art" there was certainly very little, either in attack or defence, but the passion for fighting was undoubted. I knew of a sort of rustic six-foot club, the members of which were wont to meet in a little public-house and drink bad ale by the light of inefficient tallow candles and brag of their individual prowess, and among them fights were frequent. Two of them, who were rivals, often tried to determine which was the better man; and on meeting in the lane, while engaged in the duties necessary to their peaceful pastoral pursuits, would stop their horses and have a set-to. Neither of them ever gave in to the other, but death gave one of them a back-fall that left the controversy still an open one. When the parish wakes were held it was a kind of religious duty to fight, and the champions of one village would meet the heroes of another. But for the brutality implied, some of the stories relating to these doings would be amusing. "Four o'clock o' Bowd'n wakes Sunday, an' never a blow stricken yet," shouts a man, and straightway lands a blow on the man next to him. "Hast foughten yet, Bill?" says a wife, anxious to leave the festivities. "Naw," replies William. "Well, get foughten then, an' come whoam." An old man of sixty stretched himself and complained, "Aw'm fairly clemmed for a bit o' feightin." I knew the two men concerned in the following episode. They were farmers getting into middle age and fairly well to pass in the world, who had both been redoubtable pugilists in their youth. They had driven over to attend the wakes of a neighbouring parish and were returning early, at peace with themselves and each other, when suddenly one remarked: "Well, John, we'n bin t' Runja (Ringway) wakes an' hannot had a feight." "So we han, Peter," answered John. Whereupon the two worthies stopped their conveyance and got out, pulled off their coats, and punched each other until each was convinced that he had had a fight. Their conscientious scruples were allayed; they got into the trap, and drove home even more contented than before.

JAMES BAILEY.

LAND AND OWNERS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—Of landowners having more than 5,000 acres there are 2,238. Unitedly they hold 30,924,232 acres, *i.e.*, more than one-third of the entire acreage of the United Kingdom, with a rent-roll of £26,408,397. There is no country in the world where so much of the soil is held by so small a handful of individuals.

Saturday, March 17, 1883.

NOTES.

THE FIRST WELSH NEWSPAPER.

[3,059.] The following from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1804, (Vol. 74, page 80) may be of interest:—

A newspaper has been commenced in Wales this month, (January) the first ever published in that Principality: which, as an historical fact, and a proof of the desire of increasing the means of circulating general knowledge (even during a time of war) is deserving of being thus publicly recorded.

D. BENNETT.

Ardwick.

[This would probably be the *Cambrian*, which is still published at Swansea, and is recorded in May's Press Guide as the oldest Welsh newspaper.—ED.]

STRANGE EPITAPH IN ASTON CHURCH.

[3,060.] The following is a copy of an epitaph in Aston Church, on the banks of the river Weaver, Cheshire:—

Here, reader, in this sad, yet glorious cell
Of death, lyes shrinde a double miracle,
Of woman and of wife, of each soe best,
She may be fames fayre copy to the rest.
The virgin here a blush so chaste might learne,
Till through the blood the virtue did discerne.
Here might the bryde, upon her wedding day,
At once might knowe to love and to obey,
Till the grave wise soe perfect and refynd
To be but body to her husband's mynd.
The tender mother here might learne such love
And care as shames the pelican and dove.
But fame, and truth noe more, for should you fynd
And bring each grace and beauty of her mynd,
Wonder and envy both would make this grave
Theyr court, and blast that peace her ashes have.

THE LADY MARGT. ASTON.

Daughter and coheyre of Sir John Pultney, of Pultney, Knt. Dyed the 2nd of June, 1635. Had issue Jane, Robert, Thomas, and Elizabeth. Three of which early saynts dyed in her life. Thomas, a chyld of great hope, survived her. But soone her inheritance for her grave. He dyed ye 22nd of January, 1637. *Ætas sexto.* To whose memories her bad husband, his father, Sir Thomas Aston, Baronett, dedicated this sacred monument.

Aston Church is still, though small, a beautiful chapel of ease. Externally there is little to admire, but the interior is very neat, and is enriched with stained windows and many monuments to the Aston family.

JAMES F. ROBINSON.

Owens College.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

VILLAGE CHURCH ON THE MERSEY.

(Nos. 2,943 and 2,952.)

[3,061.] In December last I attempted to reply to Query No. 2,943, on the above subject, since which time a small book entitled the *Handbook of Liverpool*, published in 1849, has come into my possession, an extract from which I subjoin. This, I think, conclusively proves that my surmise was correct:—

St. Nicholas' Church is the oldest ecclesiastical foundation in the town, and from this circumstance is more generally styled "The Old Church." It stands on the site of a chapel dedicated to our Ladye and St. Nicholas, said to have been erected about the time of the Conquest, although not consecrated until the year 1361, and was a chapel of ease under *Walton* until the year 1699, at which period Liverpool was created a distinct parish. In the churchyard was formerly a statue of St. Nicholas, who was regarded as the patron saint of the mariner. The churchyard was, not a century ago [from the publication of the book of course], washed by the waters of the Mersey. . . . Until the year 1700 St. Nicholas', or the Old Church, was the only place of worship in Liverpool, it being a chapel of ease in the parish of Walton-on-the-Hill. In that year Liverpool was constituted a rectory, with two rectors: and in 1704 St. Peter's was erected for the Parish Church. The senior rector officiates at St. Peter' and the junior rector at St. Nicholas'.

THOMAS HINDLEY.

Stockport.

LIVERPOOL CHURCHES IN 1775.

(Note No. 3,042, February 24.)

[3,062.] C. B. W. manifests an imperfect acquaintance with the history of these fabrics, when, undertaking to correct a contemporary authority of the date in question, he assumes that St. George's—"the Corporation Church"—so familiar to observation by every stranger in Liverpool, is the new church alluded to. The order of time whence the seven churches date, and which he correctly claims to have been then existent, will make this apparent. They occur in the following order:—(1) St. Nicholas, the ancient first parochial chapel under Walton-on-the-Hill, and then parish church for Liverpool, conjointly with (2) St. Peter's, erected in the reign of Queen Anne, the present Cathedral. (3) St. George's, originally constructed in the earlier part of George the Second's reign, but reconstructed upon the old foundations, and with marked duration in character, in the year 1825. (4) St. Thomas's, built during the latter part of the same reign, but now denuded of a very lofty spire that once graced the edifice, in conjunction with St. George's. (5) St. Paul's, constructed at the beginning of

the reign of George the Third; and (6-7) St. Anne's and St. James's, both built soon afterwards. There is little doubt that the attention of visitors to the then rising seaport town would be attracted to the first of the three last-named fabrics, a really chaste and beautiful structure, the plan being that of a Greek cross, supporting a dome and lantern, which rise from the intersection of the figure—in fact, embodying a miniature St. Paul's Cathedral. This I conceive, consecrated A.D. 1769, must have been in the mind's eye of the writer, who in 1775 was describing what he saw and admired of Liverpool. R. L.

DRUMLIE, AND THE ETYMOLOGY OF SCOTCH WORDS.
(Nos. 3,028 and 3,056.)

[3,063.] Mr. KELLAS-JOHNSTONE's reply to query No. 3,028, does not appear to my mind to throw any light whatever upon the etymology of the word "grumlie." That the word means "turbid" or "muddy" is amply certain, and it is accepted in that light over a very great portion of the Scottish lowlands. Burns has it very plain in his poem beginning—

Ye banks and braes and streams around
The Castle o' Montgomery,
Green be your woods, and fair your flowers,
Your waters never drumlie.

Mr. KELLAS-JOHNSTONE states that in certain districts in the north-east of Scotland the form in colloquial use is "grummie." I have no little acquaintance with the districts in question, and certainly it has never been my lot to meet the word in that form. "Drumlie" is commonly used; indeed frequently have I heard the river-watchers both of the Dee and Don describe the state of the water as "drumlie"—meaning thereby that it was muddy, generally on account of heavy rains or thaws.

Touching the question of Scotch etymology generally, I think the following extract from a paper read the other day by Mr. James Moir, rector of Aberdeen Grammar School (an institution of the highest standing) will show how much has to be done in the way of tracing the lineage of a whole host of words embodied in Lowland Scotch. The paper was entitled "The Scientific Value of the Lowland Scotch Language." Mr. Moir called attention to the question whether Lowland Scotch contains any forms of words which, as rare species of animals help to fill up missing links, fill up gaps between ordinary English and the cognate languages. Here, in his opinion, there is a most prolific mine to be worked by any competent scholar. It was this

aspect of Scotch which led him to speak of its scientific value. Having paid some attention to the matter, he was prepared to say that there are many hundreds of words in daily use by those that speak the vernacular, and many more in Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary, whose etymological history has yet to be written. Many of these would throw light, in the first place, on English and the other Teutonic languages; and, in the second place, on Greek, Latin, Sanskrit, and Celtic. If the Rev. Walter Gregor, in his monograph on the dialect of Banffshire, could give 220 large pages of words not found in Jamieson's Dictionary, what would be the additions to our means of studying English and cognate languages if every county in Scotland had its vernacular language thus preserved for all time? It is not pleasant to think that words familiar to us all have still their etymology, their lineage unravelled. Such are cosy, crous, crose, ablach, byous, dowie, droukit, dreich, sowens, stoorum (not in Jamieson), bawd (a hare), baudrons (cat), gizzen (said of a tub), glaikit, sanshaugh, clort, connach, aiblin, blaud, and many others. These words have either no etymology in Jamieson, or what they have is incorrect. It will be found that the study of Gaelic, Norse, and Gothic will best clear up the philology of Scotch, for many of the words find no equivalent in Anglo-Saxon. It is to be hoped, now that we have got a Celtic chair in Scotland, that we shall soon have a good Celtic dictionary, one which shall give something like a scientific account of the etymology of Celtic words. Such a dictionary would throw great light on many lowland Scotch words. It is also to be hoped that the early Scottish Text Society just inaugurated may see its way to imitate the Philological Society, which is going to bring out, under the editorship of Dr. J. A. H. Murray, a Philological Dictionary of the English language, and may produce a Lowland Scotch Dictionary, with etymologies abreast of our present knowledge. Jamieson's work is one to be proud of, considering the period when he produced it, but much has been done since in comparative philology. One thing is certain, that if we from indifference to or ignorance of the value of our vernacular allow it to be gradually extirpated by the advancing literary English, and fail to embalm it in dictionaries before the meaning of its words and phrases become historical, our descendants will blame us; and haply some perfervid Scot like Professor Blackie will have to arise and strive by the foundation of a Chair of

Lowland Scotch or some such other device to preserve from partial oblivion the great mass of the native lowland speech. He said partial oblivion, for Burns and Scott, Ramsay and Tannahill, Ferguson and Skinner will save it from absolute annihilation; but there are thousands of words and phrases used by ordinary lowlanders to which these writers have not given immortality, but which are dear to true Scots, and of priceless value to all students of language.

W.R.

Oldham.

HAMLET, THE KING, AND POLONIUS.

(Query No. 3,049, March 3.)

[3,064.] In Knights and Nelson's editions of Shakspeare Hamlet's speech about the body of Polonius is thus explained—that the body (i.e., of Polonius) is with the king, but the king's not yet lies beside it.

C. B.

* * *

Hamlet's speech—"The body is with the king, but the king is not with the body"—is unquestionably a poser, and the difficulty of it is only more certain from the inherent probability that it cannot be got rid of as a misprint. The very neatness of the verbal antithesis forbids that convenient solution. "How pregnant sometimes his replies are!" quoth Polonius—and this, it may be taken for granted, is one of such.

In the absence of a better interpretation at present, let us suppose that, in a fit of purposed mental perversity, Hamlet studiously mistakes the courtier's question, and, in framing his answer, uses the word "body" as meaning the body of the king, and not that of Polonius. The idea of the passage would then be that the usurper is on the king's throne, or, according to the text, that "the body is with the king;" the other part of the antithesis (but the king is not with the body) meaning that the body of such a villain was foreign to the kingly office. The feasibility of this explanation is strengthened by the brief dialogue that follows:—

HAM.—The king is a thing—

COURTIER.—A thing, my lord!

HAM.—Of nothing.

The passage will possibly admit of other solutions, more or less ingenious. One of such occurs to me at this moment. The gist of it would be that the term "body" is used in alternative meanings, the first being the king's body and the second Polonius's. Probably some of your correspondents may suggest an interpretation better than either of mine. At any

rate we must all be agreed that the passage is not a meaningless collocation of "wild and whirling words," but really a crooked reply to a direct question, and, as such, a very good instance, among many others up and down the dialogue in which Hamlet takes part, of the antic disposition he thinks it meet to put on, under cover of which he shoots some of the sharpest arrows of his wit. R. SWIVELLER.

QUERIES.

[3,065.] "JOHN INGLESANT."—Could you refer to an impartial criticism on the above book? Or could you give a brief summary and opinion of the work itself? Who is the author, whose *nom de plume* is "J. Shorthouse?" X. Y. Z.

[3,066.] THE CAT AND FIDDLE.—Is the public-house known as the Cat and Fiddle on Axe Edge, on the road between Buxton and Macclesfield, situate in Cheshire or Derbyshire, and how far is it from the county boundary? Also, what marks the boundary in the neighbourhood? QUESTIONER.

[3,067.] GRIFFITH JAMES CHEESE.—A person of this name, described as "of Manchester, organist," took out in the year 1786 a patent for "a Grand Harmonica." May I ask if anything is known of him? The specification is signed with his "mark," but he may not have been illiterate, as his hand might have been temporarily disabled. R. B. P.

[3,068.] EPITAPH IN ST. ANNE'S CHURCHYARD. The following is a copy of an inscription on a gravestone in St. Anne's Churchyard. I think many besides myself would be glad if any antiquarian could give a little information about this "respectable and honest" grocer. Can anyone say where his shop was situate?

Here lyeth the body of John Howard, who died Jan. 2nd, 1800, aged 84 years; fifty years a respectable grocer and an honest man. Sarah, wife of John Howard, of Manchester, buried Aug. 30th, 1749. Also his daughter, buried Oct. 27th, 1750.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

ROMAN MILESTONE IN NORTH WALES.—At the last meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in London an account was read, written by Mr. North, of the discovery of a Roman milestone at Llanfairfechan, in February last, marking the eighth mile from Conovium (Conway). The stone bore the name of the Emperor Hadrian, of which there are only two or three examples in England, one being near Leicester.

Saturday, March 24, 1883.

NOTES.

OLDHAM ROAD ACADEMY AND ITS LAST MASTER,
BENJAMIN HANDFORTH.

[3,069.] On the left-hand side of Oldham Road, almost opposite the Lamb Inn and Brewery, there is a school building with a flagged front, enclosed with palisades. It looks deserted and neglected now. Formerly it was a Sunday-school belonging to St. George's Church—or "St. George's-in-the-fields" before the making of the Manchester and Leeds Railway, now called the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company—which has by warehousing and markets year by year surrounded the old brick church until at last the site, church and all, was absorbed by the greedy railway. Many will remember seeing its cupola tower, surmounted by a gilt cross, protesting its existence on the Rochdale Road side of the railway. New re-built St. George's has come to the front of Oldham Road, and has handsome schools attached, though severed from the church by a squat-built licensed public-house.

It is almost forty-five years since I first saw these old schools, with a sign-board over the higher door, "Oldham Road Academy," in gilt letters, written in a flowing hand. The sign-board has long been removed, probably when Benjamin Handforth retired from his high stool and desk, just twenty years ago. Here I became one of Mr. Handforth's scholars in February, 1838, and under his tutorage and that of his brother Daniel I finished my schooling at the age of fourteen. It was a mixed school of boys and girls, both in the same room. The girls were taught sewing and needlework in the afternoons by a lady assistant, who was succeeded in the office by Miss Handforth.

Benjamin Handforth began his scholastic life about the year 1824 as an assistant to the late Mr. Thomas Rain, who had a large school in the upper rooms of the building where he lived in Oldham-street, next to the Wesleyan Chapel. It is now "improved" into shops. This house and school were originally built and kept by a Mr. Holt. The school was continued by Mr. Steinway, who married his daughter, and after him Mr. Rain followed until his death in 1861, at the age of seventy years. His son, Mr. Robert Rain, then taught the school until its close.

Mr. Rain, sen., was born at Ashton-under-Lyne, his

father being the teacher of the parish school there. He was so delicate in health that he was sent to his grandmother's at Smithfold, Hayfield, near Stockport, and it was not then expected he would live. The grandfather died young, leaving his widow with a family of four children. He had been the incumbent of Hayfield Church, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Crowther, a man much esteemed, and after him by the Rev. Samuel Wasse. Had the late Mr. Wright Turner, J.P., of Pendleton, been now living, he could have added here much interesting information about Hayfield and its church. He had a fund of most humorous stories, and had quite a faculty for telling them to the delight of his auditors. He had musical talent, and rarely missed, at one time, attending the annual sermons at the church (the first Sunday after the 19th of September). Indeed, many others availed themselves of this opportunity to renew their attachment to the place of their birth. There was no organ then in Hayfield Church. On these great annual occasions a full band led the services (the late Mr. James Turner, of Stockport, with the kettle drums). The Sunday mornings were devoted to a full rehearsal of the afternoon and evening services to follow. When the church became possessed of an organ these great festivals were still continued, and amongst the pleasant memories of Lieut.-Colonel Wilkinson, of Stockport, few will survive the enjoyable annual festivals he arranged and performed at Hayfield Church. At the two last Mrs. Sunderland was the chief singer.

Mr. Handforth, who was born near Hayfield, remained with Mr. Rain as an assistant teacher about eleven years. During this time (from about 1824 to 1835) he was the superintendent of one of the early Sunday-schools, meeting in a room in Gun-street, off George Leigh-street, Ancoats. With him were associated John Drabble and William Shone, or as he was known later on, "Old William Shone." This was No. 1 Sunday-school of St. Paul's Church, Tib-street. I cannot ascertain how long this Gun-street Sunday-school continued. There was also Turner-street school, No. 2 St. Paul's, which was once a sort of charity school for girls, under the superintendence of a Mr. Whiteley on Sundays, assisted by other teachers, and there was a library at this school. I have heard Mr. Handforth often speak of this school, and I know that in the days of tract distributing he regularly visited the neighbourhood of the school, though I cannot learn if he was ever actively associated with

the school. Probably not, as I learn that after Gun-street was given up Mr. Handforth began to attend German-street school (No. 3 St. Paul's) now and then, and was always present at the annual prize distribution, when music and recitations were made an entertainment for scholars and friends. There was evening service at this school every Sunday, as but few churches were then open for evening service. These Mr. Handforth attended frequently. About 1842 or 1843 part of the school building debt was paid off, and a new trust deed was executed. Mr. H. became one of the six trustees, being associated with the late Mr. Charles Hickson (formerly Townend and Hickson, where Lewis's shop now is in Market-street), Mr. John Keymer (Fallows Keymer), and Mr. Alderman Lamb, all of whom attended St. Paul's Church, under the Rev. Mr. Piccope, a very popular incumbent.

It would be interesting if any of your numerous readers could further inform us about these early Sunday schools. These must have been about the first Church schools, as in the Whitsuntide procession the order of precedence was—Gun-street, No. 1; Turner-street, No. 2; German-street, No. 3; and Bennett-street, No. 4, St. Paul's. A marble tablet in German-street school records that Mr. Young's jubilee was celebrated in 1835. He died in 1843, and was buried in a vault under St. James' Church. The Rev. Mr. Piccope married Dr. Bailey's daughter. Dr. Bailey built St. James' Church, and after him followed the Rev. J. Hollis, as incumbent. The Rev. Mr. Piccope lived in the house adjoining St. James' Church, and on each Wednesday evening held a meeting in a large room adjoining his house. In Mr. Piccope's absence Mr. Handforth conducted these meetings. I have evidence of them in 1829. Mr. Handforth never took part in St. George's Sunday Schools (where he kept day school), and very seldom went to St. George's Church, though his sister was a regular attendant. These schools were very full every Sunday, and were superintended at one time by a brother of the Mr. Young, of German-street, above referred to. Then Mr. James Collinge, now of Heaton Mersey, along with Mr. Peter Lowe (deceased) were conductors of the schools. The Rev. Mr. White (a near relative of Kirke White, the poet,) was incumbent of St. George's, and the Rev. Mr. Whitelegge, afterwards Canon Whitelegge, was his curate. They were followed by the Rev. Mr. Coles as incumbent, and the Rev. Mr. Colles, curate (afterwards Vicar of Melton Mowbray).

It was a singular coincidence of names—White and Whitelegge, Coles and Colles.

Hastening back to the day schools of Mr. Rain and Mr. Handforth, it may be safely asserted that no other two men can lay claim to equal the influence they exercised upon the generation which have existed during the early years when the greatness of our commercial prosperity was founded. The course of commercial education of those days comprised a decided efficiency in the cardinal rules (the Three R's, as the slang of the day has it). Though Euclid was taught, most boys were not allowed the time for its full study, as in rare instances did any boy remain until fourteen years of age. He was then considered by his parents as ready to turn to some useful occupation, or, if distinguished ability was apparent, his friends were advised by Mr. Handforth to enter him upon the Manchester Grammar School. I have inquired, but from both schools I am unable to obtain any books of names of pupils. In 1873 it was suggested that the earlier boys of Oldham Road Academy should dine and present a testimonial to Mr. Handforth. A handsome clock and bronze ornaments were subscribed for. About forty assembled at the old Seven Stars, Shudehill, and dined merrily. Never shall I forget the enthusiasm with which we sang the song "When we were boys together." It was a scene and a night to be remembered. Years had passed since many of us had met together, and the change from boys to men of forty to over fifty years of age was often perplexing.

To the time of Mr. Handforth's retirement it is seen he had spent a very busy life—daily school 9 to 12 30; 2 to 5 or 6, before he could get to his tea; then back again to night school 7 to 9. His Sundays were wholly occupied with school and church, and though he well earned his holidays, he would not exceed fourteen to twenty-one days half-yearly. More he considered a waste of time and prejudicial to a boy's advancement. He was a strict disciplinarian, and he ruled with the "cane." In private he was genial and happy amongst his friends, and by them was highly esteemed, and trusted with their private business matters. His leisure was much occupied with executor and trust estates, and a most useful lesson is seen in his management of a large cotton spinning business, of which he was the acting executor. At each of the half-year's audit of the trading accounts the amount set down for "depreciation" of plant and machinery he took

bodily out of the business and specially invested it. In years after the wisdom of this course was clear. Competition made it necessary to renew and improve the machinery. The depreciation fund investments were called in, and the entire old machinery and engines also were replaced with the most modern and improved patterns. The production was much increased and the cost of working reduced considerably. At a venerable age his career closed on the morning of last December 2nd, a few hours only past his eightieth birthday, apparently without pain—a fitting close to a consistent, useful, and active life.

It is impossible to estimate the influence these two schoolmasters impressed upon the professional and the commercial life of Manchester. There are many prominent men yet with us whose education was wholly directed by one or other of them. The closing of these day schools marked their finished career. They had done their work, and a new era began more suitable to the development of a more popular and extended system of education. E. HARDON.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GRIFFITH JAMES CHEESE.

(Query No. 3,067, March 17.)

[3,070.] Griffith James Cheese was born 2nd May, 1751, and died 10th November, 1804. He was appointed organist of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, about Christmas, 1782, in place, I think, of Richard Wainwright, who, a short time before, had been elected by the common council of Liverpool to succeed his brother, Dr. Wainwright, as organist of St. Peter's Church, Liverpool. In *Harrop's Manchester Mercury* there are the following notices of Mr. Cheese:—

21 May, 1783. Mr. Cheese played a concerto on the organ at an oratorio at Hey.

December, 1802. On the occasion of a charity sermon being preached at the Collegiate Church, an anthem, set by Mr. Cheese, was sung by the choir, Miss Cheese playing the organ.

The following obituary notice appeared in the *Mercury* of 13th November, 1804:—

On Saturday last, universally esteemed, Mr. Cheese, many years organist of the Collegiate Church in this town. Though not blessed with sight, his musical talents, both as teacher, composer, and organist, were wonderfully admired. He was interred in the interior of the church on Tuesday. A most excellent and solemn dirge was played upon the organ, and a suitable and very favourite anthem of the deceased sung by the choir on the occasion

The circumstance mentioned by your correspondent is accounted for by Mr. Cheese's blindness. I possess several anthems by Mr. Cheese, one of which has been sung at St. Peter's, Manchester.

B. ST. J. B. JOULE.

THE CAT AND FIDDLE.

(Query No. 3,068, March 17.)

[3,071.] This well-known public-house is *not* on Axe Edge, but on the highway between Buxton and Macclesfield, being five miles from Buxton and seven from Macclesfield. It is in Cheshire, the boundary between Derbyshire and Cheshire being the river Goyt, which runs under the old and new roads about four miles from Buxton. It is a pleasant ramble from Whaley Bridge by the banks of the Goyt up to its source on Axe Edge, then on to Buxton—distance about twelve miles.

D. C.

Stockport.

* * *

The Cat and Fiddle can hardly be said to be on Axe Edge, as it is on the hills two miles to the west, on the other side of the moor. It is situated about a mile on the Cheshire side of the boundary. The Buxton and Macclesfield road here crosses the watershed; and where it passes the county division, immediately on the south, rises the river Dane, which for a mile and a half forms the boundary between Cheshire and Derbyshire, and afterwards that between the former county and Staffordshire, as far as Bosley. Immediately on the north rises the river Goyt, which forms the boundary between Cheshire and Derbyshire until it joins the Etherow, which continues it along our beautiful waterworks, up to the Woodhead tunnel. On the boundary just north of the road, about halfway between the sources of the two rivers, is situated Moss House. A road leaves the Cat and Fiddle to Buxton, passing by this place. It is mentioned in an old road book I possess, showing it formerly to have been on the main road. What is this Moss House?

W. BINNS.

Salford.

QUERIES.

[3,072.] THE POET JAMES THOMSON.—Where can I obtain information as to the life and works of the author of the *City of Dreadful Night*?

SCRIBE.

[3,073.] AUTHORSHIP OF "FOOTPRINTS."—Who was the author of a thin volume of Poems, published about 1861 in Manchester under the title of *Foot-*

prints, by C. S. S.? It was printed for private circulation only, I believe, and a very limited issue.

H. B. R.

[3,074.] MISS HATFIELD, OF MANCHESTER.—Among some books recently given to the Free Reference Library by Alderman Baker is a novel in two volumes by Miss Hatfield, of Manchester, entitled *She Lives in Hopes; or Caroline. A Narrative founded upon Facts*. It was published in London in 1801, for the authoress, and sold in Manchester by Clarks, Bancks, and Thomson, and in Liverpool by Merritts and Wright. Can any of your readers give me any information about this local novelist?

CHARLES W. SUTTON.

[3,075.] NICHOLAS CROFT.—This name, lately so familiar to our county court *habitues*, is a corruption of "Nichol's Croft." The site, with immediately surrounding property, belonged (I find from old title deeds) about the middle of last century to a Mr. Thomas Nichol (or Nichols), a son-in-law of whom was the Rev. Humphrey Owen, a surrogate and chaplain at the Collegiate Church, and residing in Ridgfield in the year 1788. What was the cause of the change from "Nichols" to "Nicholas?" The Crimean war? or the increased familiarity with the name of Nicholas-street (off Mosley-street)?

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

THE PAUPER'S FUNERAL.

TALBOT-STREET, MOSS SIDE.

A recent editorial reply to a correspondent (G. S. W., Liverpool,) implied that the poem of the "Pauper's Funeral" was written by Thomas Hood. In a letter from my friend Mr. J. C. Heaviside, London (formerly of Manchester), that gentleman, referring to the generally received notion that Hood wrote the poem, says:—"His late son Tom had occasion more than once to indicate to the public the name of the real author. The name I forget, but I am almost sure a North-Country clergyman, who published some years ago a volume of poems, wrote the lines. I am quite aware they are generally considered Hood's production; and that they may be seen, in collections for recitation, placed to his credit. It is only a few weeks since I saw the verses in an American paper with Hood's name to them; but I defy anyone to find them in a properly edited copy of Hood's poems."

I have a vague recollection of having myself seen a printed statement that the poem was *not* written by the elder Hood, and on the authority of his son. Perhaps some of your readers can furnish the name of the real author.

I remember once mentioning to Eliza Cook that I had heard a poem of hers well recited, and that I had intended myself to commit it to memory; but I could not find it in her published volumes under its title, "The New Crusade." To my astonishment she informed me that it was not hers, and that she knew the real author, but had momentarily forgotten the name. Yet it is constantly attributed to her, and is certainly by no means an indifferent imitation of her style and type of thought.

CHARLES HARDWICK.

THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Chetham Society was held yesterday in the audit room of Chetham's Hospital, Mr. JAMES CROSSLEY, the venerable president, in the chair.

The report presented by the Council stated that they regret that during the past year only one volume has been issued, viz., part ii. of the *Visitation of Lancashire and part of Cheshire in 1533*, by commission from Thomas Benalt, Clarendieux, forming vol. cx. of the series. The volumes of the old series already due for the years 1881 and 1882 are in the following state:—(a) Mr. Corser's *Collectanea Anglo-Poetica*, part xi., is printed up to page 140. Its issue has been delayed on account of the preparation of the index to the complete work of eleven parts. (b) The *Comptus of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, respecting his lands in Lancashire and Cheshire, A.D. 1297*, is printed off as far as page 176. It is expected that the editor, the Rev. P. A. Lyons, will shortly complete it. (c) The *Inventories of Goods in the Churches and Chapels of Lancashire, A.D. 1552*. Edited by Mr. J. E. Bailey. The Inventories for West Derby Hundred are printed off or are in type; and there only remains the northern hundreds, to which the editor is now giving his attention. (d) The *Diary and Correspondence of Dr. John Worthington*, vol. ii. part ii., concluding the work. Mr. Crossley's engagements during the past year have prevented him from completing the copy for the press; but he hopes to be able shortly to give his undivided attention to it. (e) *General Index to Vols. XXXI. to the end of the first Series*; (excluding Mr. Corser's *Anglo Poetica*, separately indexed). In two vols. The work has been placed in the hands of Mr. W. E. Axon, from whom an accurate and complete Index may be expected. He expects to complete it within the year. These two volumes will thus complete the Old Series. For the New Series, beginning with the year 1882-3, the following volumes have been put in hand: The first to be issued will be a volume taken from the the Raines MSS., entitled the *Vicars of Rochdale*, now in the press, under the care of Mr. H. H. Howarth. Another volume, from the same source, and also in the press, is

entitled the *Rectors and Wardens of Manchester*. This volume will be edited by Mr. James Crossley and Mr. J. E. Bailey. The third volume will either be *An account of the Old Church Libraries of Lancashire and Cheshire*, by Mr. R. C. Christie, or the *Statutes of Chester Cathedral, 1544*, by the very Rev. Dr. Howson, Dean of Chester. The Council have also in view the publication of volumes on the following subjects:—The Common-Place Book of John Byrom, including his Journal and Letters, for the years 1730-1. The Accounts of the Constables of Manchester, 1613-47, and 1742-80. A Volume of Lancashire and Cheshire Wills. A History of Poulton-le-Fylde. A Selection from Canon Raines's Literary and Antiquarian Correspondence. The Chartulary of Furness Abbey.

The CHAIRMAN said it was nearly forty years since the society held its first general meeting, which was on the 23rd of March 1843. That was a very long period for a society to continue, and to keep up its efficiency as well as this society had done. He had attended all the forty annual meetings—(applause)—and no society that he knew of which had lasted for forty years had had a pleasanter series of meetings. Alluding to the delay which had occurred in the issue of the society's publications, he said he was sorry for it, but delays must and would occur at particular periods owing to a combination of circumstances, and so it had been with this society. He had sometimes heard complaints made about this delay which put him in mind of an old story which they were probably all aware of, with regard to Dr. Johnson in announcing his edition of Shakspeare, which was to be published by subscription. The doctor took subscriptions, but year after year elapsed and no edition came out. At length the complaints of the delay culminated in some satirical lines by Churchill, which were a rather savage attack upon Johnson, who, in reply, said, "Well, they shall have their book, but I have two difficulties. In the first place I have lost the list of subscriptions, and in the next place I have spent all the money." (Laughter.) However, the book came out at last, and all were agreed that it was not worth waiting for. But he felt confident that when the books of this society appear the members will think they were worth waiting for.

Mr. J. J. JORDAN read the statement of accounts, which showed that the society began the year with a balance of £693, and closed it with one of £732, but all this balance, he said, would have to be paid for work that was now in hand.

Mr. H. H. Howorth said he thought a strong protest ought to be raised against an item of £100 charged to the society by Mr Simms for new type. It was simply

intolerable that they should be expected to buy new type for the printer. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JORDAN said Mr. Simms's explanation of the matter was that he had been obliged to purchase two or three new founts in consequence of certain type having been kept standing for the society's publications several years. Mr. Crossley had approved of the payment.

Several members said the matter had never come before the council, and the Chairman suggested that it be referred to them, which was agreed to.

Mr. Howorth said he considered the report was more or less an apologetic one. There had been more than one letter in the paper in which some severe things had been said, imputing even moral obliquity to the council on the ground that they had been taking subscriptions without supplying the subscribers with a corresponding return in the shape of books. It was forgotten by some people that the society was composed largely of volunteer workers, and although a man had no right to volunteer to do a certain work unless he was prepared to complete it within a reasonable period, they could not drive volunteers as they could drive paid servants. Another cause of the delay complained of was that the society had been going through a stage of rejuvenescence; the old series had had to be closed and a new one begun, and this had involved the printing of an index which was always a source of delay.

The report was adopted.

After the lapse of thirty years, Sir Walter Scott's works are being retranslated and republished in France.

THE QUEEN AS AN INDIAN GODDESS.—Sergeant Atkinson, in a letter to the *Indian Spectator*, states that there is now a numerous tribe in Orissa who worship the Queen as a goddess, though, he adds, not under the awkward title of "Kaiser-i-Hind."

MR. JOSEPH FOX'S NEW PLAY.—The new drama, *Ambition's Slave*, by Mr. Joseph Fox, lately resident in Manchester as Editor of *Momus*, was played for the first time in London, at the Standard Theatre, on Saturday evening. The *Daily News* says:—"The plot of the piece is chiefly laid in Modena, at the period which may be called the poisoning age of European history. The subject might easily have been made repulsive; but Mr. Fox has been quite successful in steering clear of that danger. The piece is full of strong situations. The performers include only three who need be mentioned specially, but they play well together and seem to have studied their parts carefully. In personating Spadra Mr. Clarence Holt is a trifle stagey while appearing as the happy husband; but as the piece proceeds he gives an interesting and at times powerful rendering of the character. The Lucrezia of Miss Eleanor Kemp is marked by good judgment and some force. Mr. Theo Balfour as Jacques Remy portrays cleverly a villain of the Mephistophelian type. Both play and players received from Saturday night's audience a hearty endorsement of the favourable verdict given in Glasgow."

Saturday, March 31, 1883.

NOTES.

AN EASTER-DAY PROVERB.

[3,076.] On Easter Sunday, when taking tea at a farmhouse at Alvanley, a lady remarked upon the fact that no rain had fallen during the day, and she regarded it as an excellent sign. So saying she quoted the couplet—

When rain falls on Easter Day,
We get no grass, and little hay.

I never before heard this proverb.

JAMES F. ROBINSON.

SINGULAR EPITAPH AT FRODSHAM.

[3,077.] The curious monumental stone which was in the Overton aisle before the restoration of the fine parish church of Frodsham, is now removed to a recess beside the font, and is liable to be overlooked. Your medical readers may, with others, perhaps doubt the fact recorded, which reads as follows:—

Near this place lies the body of Peter Banner, carpenter, of Frodsham, who died of dropsy, October 21st, 1749, aged fifty; and in thirty-three months he was tapped fifty-eight times, and had 1,032 quarts of water taken from him.

JAMES F. ROBINSON.

MAD AS A MARCH HARE.

[3,078.] A paragraph in the *Globe* refers to this curious proverb. It is generally said that as in spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love, so does that of the malkin—that the male follows the somewhat labyrinthine and intercrossing windings to and fro of the female by scent. His impetuosity and apparently madly vague gambolling give rise to the belief that he is mad in earnest, when he is only mad in love. Chaucer, I observe, has "wood [mad] as is an hare." The word March has most likely crept in, partly because of the alliteration necessary to a proverb; partly because—so I fancy—the bareness of the fields in March makes the hare's hymeneal antics more visible than at other times,

AUTOLYCUS.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

EPITAPH IN ST. ANNE'S CHURCHYARD.

(Query No. 3,063, March 17.)

[3,079.] I would refer Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS to page 18 of the Directory of Manchester and Salford for 1788, reprinted by Messrs. Lewis, where the fol-

lowing is to be found:—"Howard John, grocer, Old Millgate." This is probably the "respectable grocer and honest man," as he is the only John Howard, grocer, mentioned. He was, of course, a grocer in 1778, as the inscription implies.

G. E.

Oldham.

* * *

The Rev. C. W. Bardsley, in his *Memorials of St. Anne's Church*, published in 1877, says that in the latter half of last century, King-street, Ridgefield, and St. James's Square furnished many of the pew-holders of the church. "Market-street, too, sent its foremost shopkeepers, who of course lived on their premises. Newton, the bookseller, Ravald, the coffee-house keeper, Rose and Howard, the grocers, came from the same neighbourhood." Then, in a note to the name of "Howard," Mr. Bardsley adds:—

Poor John Howard's friends gave him an unfortunate epitaph, one, too, that reflected unkindly upon his wife. It may still be seen in the churchyard. "Here lyeth the body of John Howard, who died Jan. 2, 1800, aged 84 years; fifty years a respectable grocer and a honest man." As it is further stated that his wife died in 1749, fifty years before, it would seem her husband's honesty dated from the day of her decease. Mrs. Malaprop herself, in her happiest moments, could not have beaten this inscription.

ION.

JOHN INGLESANT.

(Query No. 3,065, March 17.)

[3,080.] An inquirer asks for a reference to an "impartial criticism" of *John Inglesant*, and wishes to know the author's real name. As regards the latter point, I always understood that John Henry Shorthouse is not a pseudonym but the actual name of the author, and that he is a Birmingham manufacturer. The book has, of course, been reviewed in many journals and periodicals, and it is not possible at this distance of time to say which was the best notice, but a comprehensive, able, and, as I think, accurate and impartial estimate appeared in the *Saturday Review* of July 9, 1881. Within its space I know no better.

The writer begins by saying that *John Inglesant* first appeared about a year previously (that is, about the middle of 1880), at Birmingham, where a hundred copies were privately printed for circulation among the friends of the author. Having, even under these conditions, attracted attention beyond the circle for which it was originally designed, it had been determined to give it through the ordinary publishing channels to a larger audience. The *Saturday Reviewer*

goes on to say that, "as the work of a Birmingham manufacturer, *John Inglesant* represents a degree and type of cultivation in our great industrial towns worthy of notice on many grounds." As regards the general character of the book, the reviewer says:—

It has two themes, one artistic, the other argumentative and philosophical. The author's leading idea seems to have been to trace the effect of a great time of political and speculative ferment, such as was the seventeenth century in England, upon a sensitive, finely-wrought nature, deeply veined with religious mysticism, fervent, devout, tenacious, and yet crossed with a certain fatal feebleness, partly traceable to physical, partly to moral causes. [A sort of English Hamlet, in fact, living at the time of the Civil War.] Mingled with and dependent upon this first theme is the second, which may be described as a defence of the Church of England, ideally conceived as the half-way house and meeting-place of the religious and rationalizing instincts in man, against the great mother Church of Rome, of which Inglesant is made at all times to feel the strange potency and force, and which he only escapes joining by an accident.

And again, in summing up, the reviewer says:—

The book in fact seems to embody, in artistic form, views and forms well known to those who are conversant with what one may call, for want of a better phrase, academic High Churchism. The peculiar religious tone and temper which belonged to the finer and more poetical minds in the Tractarian movement finds here delicate and beautiful interpretation.

So much for the purpose and leading idea of the "romance," as the author terms it. As a romance it is defective, and a good deal of it is hard reading. "Outside the character of Inglesant himself," says the reviewer, "the whole character drawing appears flat and tame." ION.

THE AUTHORSHIP OF "FOOTPRINTS."

(Query 3,073, March 24.)

[3,081.] The little volume of Poems entitled *Footprints*, by C.S.S., was the production of the late Mr. Charles S. Simms, printer and stationer of King-street, Manchester, a younger brother of the late Mr. George Simms, bookseller, St. Anne's Square. This volume, which contains poetry of a high order, was printed for private circulation only amongst the author's friends. Mr. Charles Simms, who was singularly modest and unassuming, was a well-read and highly-cultured man. He was a good German scholar, and his attainments in Greek enabled him to translate, in a masterly style, the first book of Homer's Iliad into English verse. This translation, published in 1866, received the hearty commendation of Sir John Herschel and other competent scholars.

As a local printer Mr. Simms occupied a prominent

place, and was the first in Manchester who was able to compete with London printers in the production of first-class book work. The Chetham Society volumes and many others attest his taste and skill in this direction. He was born at Bath in 1809; died at Higher Broughton February 27, 1872; and is buried at St. Paul's, Kersal Moor.

His father, Mr. Samuel Simms, a leading bookseller in Bath, when on a visit to his sons many years ago, went to look through our Cathedral. Mr. Simms, senr., was a handsome, pleasant, benevolent-looking, elderly gentleman, faultlessly dressed in black, with a white tie. His visit occurred shortly after the death of the first Dean of Manchester—the Hon. William Herbert. He had no sooner set his foot in the Cathedral than he became the object of excessive, but deferential, attention on the part of the verger, which puzzled him for a time, but was explained when, having completed the round of the building, the Cathedral functionary said in a very respectful and diffident tone, "I suppose you are our new Dean, sir." To the apparent regret of his questioner, Mr. Simms at once disowned the soft impeachment.

Stretford.

DAVID KELLY.

* * *

The author of *Footprints* was my father, the late Charles S. Simms, of this city. It was printed for private circulation only, and the number, I believe, was limited to sixty copies.

CHARLES E. SIMMS.

GRIFFITH JAMES CHEESE AND EDWARD BETTS,
ORGANISTS.

(Nos. 3,067 and 3,070.)

[3,082.] In the west aisle of the Cathedral, near to the south porch, lies the gravestone of the above. Being tiled over it is not now visible. The following is a copy of the inscription:—

Here was interred the body of

GRIFFITH JAMES CHEESE,

Organist of the Collegiate Church,

Who departed this life the 2nd of November, 1804,

Aged 53 years.

EDWARD BETTS,

Organist of the Collegiate Church,

Died April 18, 1767, aged 87 years.

Also Ellen Bradbury, died Nov. 7, 1818, aged 78 years.

I have not baptisms for 1751 at hand, and cannot refer to who was his parents; but there is a marriage at the Collegiate Church, February 21, 1735, John Cheese and Esther Lees. At St. Anne's is the baptism,

1739, May 1, of Dorothy, daughter of John and Ester Cheese, of Poolfould. There is the following entry in the Collegiate Burial Register:—"1810, Feb. 23. Martha Cheese, lunatic, aged 81. Buried in the choir."

Of Mr. Betts the registers give something more:—

1709. June 30. Edward Betts and Elizabeth Parker, married.

1755. July 12. John Buckley of Prestwich parish, and Frances Betts, of this parish, married.

1758. March 28. Mary, wife of Edward Betts, aged 72, buried.

I cannot account for the wife's name Mary. Was she a second wife, of whom I cannot find the wedding?

1759. Oct. 12. Edward Betts, organist, and Betty Tinsley, widow, by licence. J. OWEN.

THE PAUPER'S FUNERAL: PROPERLY THE PAUPER'S DRIVE.

(Letter, March 24, 1883.)

[3,083.] Referring to the inquiry of Mr. CHARLES HARDWICK, in your last issue, as to the authorship of the "Pauper's Funeral"—presuming it to be the well-known piece beginning—

There's a grim one-horse hearse, in a jolly round trot,
and with the refrain at the end of each verse, of—

Rattle his bones over the stones,

He's only a pauper whom nobody owns,

the name of the author is Thomas Noel, but very little else beyond his name seems to be known, and that he wrote in the early part of the present century. Noel seems to have been contemporaneous with Hood, though probably much older, and it would be interesting to know exactly when and where his poem first appeared. It is easily understood how the piece comes to be so often ascribed to the author of the "Song of the Shirt," being so much (in its mixture of humour and pathos) in the style of the more commonly known pieces of Thomas Hood's. Noel's poem under its title of the "Pauper's Drive" with his name attached will be found in Cassell's *British Ballads*, vol. 2, and in Carpenter's *Penny Readings*, vol. 9. H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

The Pauper's Drive (not Funeral) was written, not by Thomas Hood, as is corrected in your last issue, but—as the author himself confirms in (the London) *Notes and Queries* Dec. 2, 1854—by Thomas Noel, Boyne Cottage, Maidenhead.

This is an age of pauperism, when, according to the statistics as shown by the Rev. T. W. Fowle, one in 40 of the population is, or has been, a pauper; and when, according to the official returns for the

year ending July, 1880, £8,015,010 was spent in indoor and outdoor relief, exclusive of vagrants. These statistics, of course, leave out the charitable organizations in connection with the parish churches and chapels, the hospitals and institutions for the sick, the lame, the deaf, the blind, and the widows and orphans, as well as the indiscriminate charity of the begging system in active operation. According to the published classified return of the metropolitan charities, there was in the metropolis alone in one year (1880) £4,121,546 voluntarily subscribed for charitable purposes irrespective of the official pauper system. In fact it is impossible to obtain more than an approximation to the expenditure on charity in this country. The political instincts of the people are deadened, their self-respect lost, the healthy instinct to labour subdued, by generations of pauperism; and we may be ultimately overwhelmed by the monster we have created. Defoe in his *Giving Alms no Charity* (1704) says: "I am no enemy to charity hospitals or workhouses, but think that methods to keep our poor out of them far exceed both in prudence and charity, all the settlements and endeavours in the world to keep them there."

The touching pathos of the poem is worth reproducing. I have not seen it for many years, but made a manuscript copy in 1863:—

THE PAUPER'S DRIVE: BY THOMAS NOEL.

There's a grim one-horse hearse in a jolly round trot;
To the churchyard a pauper is going I wot;
The road it is rough, and the hearse has no springs,
And hark to the dirge that the sad driver sings—

Rattle his bones over the stones,

He's only a pauper whom nobody owns.

Oh, where are the mourners? Alas! there are none;
He has left not a gap in the world now he's gone;
Not a tear in the eye of child, woman, or man:
To the grave with his carcase as fast as you can.

Rattle his bones, etc.

What a jolting and creaking and splashing and din!
The whip how it cracks and the wheels how they spin!
How the dirt right and left o'er the hedges is hurl'd!
The pauper at length makes a noise in the world.

Rattle his bones, etc.

Poor pauper defunct! he has made some approach
To gentility now that he's stretch'd in a coach;
He's taking a drive in his carriage at last,
But it will not be long if he goes on so fast.

Rattle his bones, etc.

But a truce to this strain, for my soul it is sad
To think that a heart in humanity clad
Should make, like the brutes, such a desolate end,
And depart from the light without leaving a friend.

Bear softly his bones over the stones,

Though a pauper, he's one whom his Maker yet owns.

J. TAYLOR KAY.

* * *

The poem referred to by Mr. CHARLES HARDWICK was written by Mr. Thomas Noel, who in 1851 resided in a beautiful cottage on the banks of the Thames in the neighbourhood of Maidenhead, "leading," says Miss Mitford in her *Recollections of a Literary Life*, 1857, vol. 1, pp. 41-44, "the life of an accomplished but somewhat secluded country gentleman." In 1841 Mr. Noel published his first and only volume, under the title of *Rhymes and Roundelayes*. In this volume the poem under discussion, and so often attributed to the late Thomas Hood, may be found. Its correct title is "The Pauper's Drive." Of this volume, which is now very scarce, no mention is made by Mr. H. G. Bohn in his new edition of Lowndes. Miss Mitford, referring to the poem, says:—"The author tells me that this incident was taken from life. He witnessed such a funeral—a coffin in a parish hearse driven at full speed."

Heaton Moor.

G. H. S.

QUERIES.

[3,084.] THE PENDLETON MAYPOLE. — What length of time has elapsed since the blowing down of the maypole at Pendleton, prior to the one which was blown down in January of the present year? There appears to be great doubt in the minds of a many people, and much contradictory opinion. My own recollection of the occurrence tends to convince me that it was on the morning of Monday, the 7th January, 1839, now over forty-four years ago.

EDWARD WILLIAMSON.

[3,085.] THE JACOBITE RISING IN 1745.—Smollett states, in reference to Prince Charles Edward's advance into England in this year:—"All the bridges over the river Mersey being broken down, Charles chose the route to Stockport, and forded the river at the head of his division, though the water rose to his middle." (Bk. ii., ch. 8.) Is it known what route to Stockport the army took after leaving Manchester, or at what particular spot of the river Mersey at Stockport this passage took place? Sir Walter Scott, also, in his account of the retreat of the "rebels," says:—"At a village near Stockport the inhabitants fired upon the patrols of the Highlanders, who in retaliation set fire to the place." (*Tales of a Grandfather*, cap. lxxx.) Can this village be identified; or is it still in existence?

WILLIAM LAWSON.

Saturday, April 7, 1883.

NOTES.

NAMES OF BEER.

[3,086.] I am not sure whether the varying fashions in beer and porter have been noticed in your Notes and Queries. If not it may be of some little interest to print Uncle Bunker's explanation, as given in Mr. Walter Besant's remarkably interesting novel, *All Sorts and Conditions of Men*. It is as follows:—

"You see, Miss Kennedy, there's fashions in beer, same as in clothes; once it was all Cooper, now you never hear of Cooper. Then it was all Half-an-arf—you never hear of anyone ordering Half-an-arf now. Then it was Stout. Nothing would go down but Stout, which I recommend myself, and find it nourishing. Next, Bitter came in, and honest Stout was despised; now we're all for Mild. As for Entire, why, bless my soul, Entire went out before I was born. Why, it was Entire which made the fortune of the first Messenger that was—a poor little brewery he had, more than a hundred years ago, in this very place, because it was cheap for rent. In those days they used to brew Strong Ale, Old and Strong; Stout, same as now; and Twopenny, which was small-beer. And because the Old Ale was too strong, and the Stout too dear, and the Twopenny too weak, the people used to mix them all three together, and they called them 'Three Threads;' and you may fancy the trouble it was for the pot-boys to go to one cask after another all day long, because they had no beer engines then. Well, what did Mr. Messenger do? He brewed a beer as strong as the Three Threads, and he called it Messenger's Entire Three Threads, meaning that here you had 'em all in one; and that's what made his fortune."

S.

THE BROOKES OF ASTLEY HALL, CHORLEY, AND THE BIRCHES OF BIRCH.

[3,087.] Sir Peter Brooke, of Astley, Knight, was one of the younger sons of Thomas Brooke, Esq., of Norton, near Runcorn, and also of the Mere, Cheshire, and was ancestor of that branch of the Brookes of Cheshire. Sir Peter Brooke was M.P. for Cheshire during the Commonwealth, 1656-7. He was sheriff for Cheshire in 1655, and for Lancashire in 1674. Richard, second son of this Sir Peter Brooke, married Margaret, sole heiress of Robert Charnock, (anciently de Charnock) of Charnock and Astley. The insignificant river, or riverlet, the Char, or Chor, evidently

had relation to the name of this family, as well as to the present town of Chorley. In 1646, Robert Charnock compounded for his Astley estate for the sum of £260 the restoration and alteration of the house taking place after that time, from its more ancient and unpretentious form; when the roof of the entrance-hall was changed from open framework to a ceiling of ornamental moulding, comprising a variety of figures and flowers, amongst which are prominent the arms of the Charnocks and Brookes. This work was the execution of one of those bands of Italian artists who traversed England about that time; visiting the country-seats of the English gentry on the chance of obtaining employment. The staircase has some fine portions of ancient carving; although when Susan, Lady Hoghton, succeeded to the property, she discovered that the barbarous taste, or indifference, of her ancestors had obliterated the traces of former handiwork by covering it deeply with paint or composition, which it took many weeks of patient labour to remove. The tapestry in the drawing-room tells the story of Jason in search of the Golden Fleece.

From Richard Brooke, with whom lived his father, Sir Peter, at Astley Hall, is descended Peter Brooke, Esq., of Astley, whose daughter, and sole heiress, Susan, married November 1787 Robert Townley Parker, Esq., of Baganley Hall, Chorley, and later of Cuerden, near Preston. This gentleman died 1796, leaving a son, the late Robert Townley Parker, whose decease is still recent, and a period of whose youth is thus alluded to in an article on the Rev. T. S. Hughes, prefixed to his *History of England*:—"Shortly after Mr. Hughes's return to Cambridge, 1812, he accepted the post of travelling tutor to Mr. R. Townley Parker, of Cuerden, Lancashire, visiting Spain, Italy, Sicily, Greece, and Albania during a tour of about two years." Mrs. Parker took for her second husband Sir Henry Philip Hoghton, of the Tower, and of Walton Hall, Preston, and as Lady Hoghton took part in the ceremonial procession of the Preston Guild in the year 1802, when a beautiful and imposing band of the noblest ladies of the Palatinate—including the Countess of Derby (Miss Farren) walked bareheaded through the streets of Preston to the church, with gentlemen attendants; each lady bearing a small basket (not the modern bouquet) filled with the choicest flowers. Miss Hoghton, Lady Hoghton's only daughter, has died only last month (February),

at Clevedon, near Bristol. Born in the year 1800, her years kept pace with the advancing century. In her later years she was blind.

The Birches, of Birch, are descendants of the ancient family of that name, whose pedigree by Vernon includes twenty-four descents. Robert Birch, of Withington, lived temp. Henry Sixth; and William de Birch, his son and heir, in the second of Richard Third, 1484. William's youngest son, Thomas, was a priest; whose nephew, William Birch, on the other hand, was the first warden of Manchester after the Reformation. The warden's eldest brother, Thomas, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Chetham, Esq., of Nuthurst, reign of Edward Sixth, 1548; and it is of their great grand son, Thomas Birch, that I would speak. Two of his younger children were twins, Peter and Andrew. Andrew married Alice, eldest daughter of Thomas Brooke, of Norton, Cheshire, by Ellen Gerard his third wife; and, after this, travelling in France, writes to his father the following letter, giving particulars of his journey. Andrew's marriage with Alice Brooke explains the connection between the families of Brooke and Birch; and accounts for Thomas Birch taking the trouble to forward to Sir Peter Brooke, at Astley, a copy of his son's letter from France, with the following introduction. The spelling is modernized:—

For Sir Peter Brooke, Knight, at Astley, near Chorley.

Good Brother,—Andrew having writ to me both from Paris (?) and Rouen in Normandy, which letters have also both miscarried, yet having sent one also from Tours, which is at a further distance, I was desirous to let you know it, and therefore, for the more full satisfaction, have copied it out, viz:—

"Tours, Nov. 4, N.S. (new style), 1674.

Sir,—I write this from one of the finest cities of France, and but thirty miles from the end of our journey. I writ to you from Dieppe and from Rouen, both which I hope you have received. We stayed one whole week at Paris, to see the curiosities of that great city; but to me it does not equal London, as now 'tis, either for grandeur, beauty, or conveniency, though there are more particular houses nobly built and furnished. Besides that, the Louvre, the King's Palace, does really excel anything that we have in England, or in Holland, that I have seen. We have also made a small country journey to St. Germain's, to see the royal family, and came very happily to see the King of France (Louis Fourteenth) hunt a wild boar. Really to me he is the most noble prince for person, and a sweet courteous behaviour, that I ever saw. His brother, the Duc d'Orleans, hath nothing of that *haute mine et riche tuille*, as the King. I also saw at supper Madame the Duchesse d'Orleans, Mdle. de Montpensier, the greatest heiress in the world, Madame

de Guise, all of the royal family. Afterwards we went to Versailles, a great house built by this King, where he hath resided all this war [between France and Holland]. 'Tis so prodigiously noble, for rich furniture, building, gardens, fountains, canals, labyrinths, and cascades, that I was amazed to see it. By it, all the nobility have noble houses, which altogether make, I believe, the finest village in the world. Not far off is the King's milkhouse, where I saw a strange variety of beasts and birds, as elephants, ostriches, pelicans. Thence by a canal, two miles long—cut in low ground so deep as to have a man-of-war of ten guns upon it,—to his house called Tryanno [Trianon], only for flowers and rare plants, which pleased me infinitely, where my D (dear) mother, I am sure, would delight to spend many hours. But, sir, lest I lose myself in describing a thing so noble, give me leave to say that we returned to Paris, and the next day set forward to Orleans, where we arrived in three days. Hence we took boat to Blois, upon the Loire, where we arrived the second night. 'Tis a very neat city, where many English gentlemen reside. Thence we got, in another day and night, to Tours, a most pleasant city for gardens and monasteries. Here is the most ancient and rich one of France, dedicated to St. Benoist [the ancient Benedictine Abbey of Marmontier]. Sir, I hope you will be so charitable as to think that none of these things move me either as to my religion or my affection to my friends and country.

D.M. [dear mother]—I am sorry I can present you with nothing from France but words. 'Tis a good country, though I do not prefer it to England. The King here is perfectly absolute, whereby you may guess him a mighty monarch, as indeed he is. All burdens here lie upon the poor and needy, the rich and noble being excused; which ought to make the former think of a better country, and the latter be careful to keep their thoughts from fixing here. Indeed if you saw the ignorance of the poor paysans, with their poverty, you would bless God for his mercies to England; our country-people being to them demi-princes. My coming hither is much to my advantage, for I hope to get the French tongue perfect, satisfy myself in very many things, and render myself much fitter for my business. I am solicited to travel next spring, but shall have timely notice, and be more regularly consulted than upon this short journey; for I intend to be in London by Christmas.—ANDREW BIRCH."

Thus you have what he writ, both to his mother and me, which I rather write out at large, not having a better way to answer at present his service to yourself, my lady, and cousins, and to make my son Robinson, and Alice also, partakers of what I hear from him, one letter being to serve you all.—Your truly affectionate brother-in-law, to serve you, THO. BIRCH.

Birch, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 1674.

"My son, Robinson," was John Robinson, son and heir of Edward Bruckshaw, Esq., who married Alice, eldest daughter of the above Thomas Birch, of Birch. The traveller, Andrew, seems to have landed at Dieppe, and to have taken the great highway by

Rouen to the capital. Orleans, some sixty miles from Paris, now three hours by rail, took Andrew and his wife three weary days to reach it. Blois, forty miles further, he entered on the second night from Orleans; and from Blois to Tours, thirty-seven miles, a day and night were required.

MARY ROBERTS.

Bristol.

MANCHESTER STREET-LORE.

[3,088.] Under this heading much of interest to Manchester readers might be written relative to early street nomenclature; and a collection be thus formed of family names which have been stamped on our city's history by becoming marks of identity of streets, squares, courts, and rows. In the *City News* of March 24, I gave slight information as to the origin of the name, "Nicholas Croft." Similar particulars could be obtained, I think, of most of our old landmarks. It would, of course, be well to confine the notes to names given prior to the current century, so as to exclude the introduction of references to the present generation. As another instance of what I mean, I will take at random, from among my notes, a district, near old Deansgate, not far from what is known to be part of Roman Manchester.

Cooper's Row, Cooper's Lane, and Back Cooper's Court, off Gregson-street, Deansgate. These three places owe (I find from old deeds) their common appellation to a family, members of which for a few generations owned all the land now the site of the places in question. John Cooper, coachmaker, of Manchester, by his will devised the said land, with other property, to his two sons, Thomas and Joseph, as tenants-in-common. The elder son (who followed his father's trade) secured, on partition, sole ownership of this land, parts of which he in 1789 sold off for building purposes; and the row, lane, and court above-named were shortly afterwards formed on portions of the land so sold off.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MOSS HOUSE.

(Nos. 3,071, March 24.)

[3,089.] Mr. W. BINNS inquires "What is Moss House?" Passing round that district ten days ago I called at the house. It appears that it is called "Moss House" on account of the huge bank of moss

just where the Goyt issues through the tunnel. At the present it is a farm, and it was built in 1819. The old man further stated that "as long as he'd bin thure th'ouse was where it stands now, and I con say no moore."

HIGH PEAK.

OLDHAM ROAD ACADEMY AND BENJAMIN
HANDFORTH.

(Note No. 3,069, March 24.)

[3,090.] It is very interesting to read the notes of Mr. HARDON in relation to the above; but, having the opportunity of investigating the statements contained therein, Mr. HARDON will pardon me if I point out some inaccuracies into which he has fallen. For instance, the tower of St. George's-in-the-fields never was surmounted by a gilt cross; neither did the brother of Mr. Young, of German-street, nor Mr. James Collinge, ever fill the office of conductor or superintendent at St. George's Sunday-school (the latter was for a time at St. Paul's, Bennett-street, school). For more than twelve years prior to 1840 the superintendents were Mr. Thomas Barritt, Mr. Guest, and Mr. Richardson, each of whom received testimonials when their connection ceased. I may further add that the Rev. Mr. White was brother to Henry Kirke White, the poet. As there are still many living who were connected with St. George's-in-the-fields at the time referred to by Mr. HARDON, it is only proper that the saddle should be put upon the right horse.

J. R. HAMPSON.

South Parade, Manchester.

THE POET JAMES THOMSON.

(Query No. 3,072, March 24.)

[3,091.] James Thomson ("B.V."), the author of the *City of Dreadful Night*, died, a victim to insomnia, on June 3, 1882, and a short obituary notice of him appeared in several papers about that date. Messrs. Reeves and Turner, Strand, London, have published three volumes of his works—*The City of Dreadful Night and other Poems*, 1880; *Vane's Story, Weddah, Om-el-Bonam, and other Poems*, 1881; *Essays and Phantasies*, 1881—and it is understood that the same firm will shortly issue a fourth volume, to consist of poems, which will be prefaced by a memoir of the poet's life. No VI. of the *Leek Bijou Freethought Reprints*, recently issued, is also advertised as a "B.V." memorial volume, and consists exclusively of extracts from Mr. Thomson's writings. The title "B.V." under which Mr. Thomson first introduced

himself to the public, is supposed to represent "Bysshe Vanolis;" the latter word being an anagram of "Novalis," the assumed name of a celebrated German mystic, and the former readily suggesting the poet Shelley, whence it may be inferred that these two writers won the admiration of Mr. Thomson and inspired some of his thoughts. His principal literary work consisted of contributions to *Cope's Tobacco Plant*, which furnished the means of subsistence for a number of years.

Mr. Thomson's short career seems to have been rendered singularly unhappy by his having, early in life, suffered a bitter disappointment in love, from the depressing effect of which he never completely rallied.

ONEZ.

* * *

SCRIBE will find an account of the life and works of the author of the *City of Dreadful Night* in the *Athenæum* for June 10, 1882, written by Philip B. Marston.

G. H. S.

Heaton Moor.

[Several other communications have been received in answer to this query, but they contain nothing more than is embodied in the above notes. Their number, however (which has been unusually large), shows the wide-spread interest taken in the hapless poet. A powerful sketch of his career, and particularly of his last days, appeared in the London correspondence of the *Liverpool Mercury*, and was reproduced in the *Manchester City News* of June 17, 1882, under the title of "The Story of a Poet's Life." No sadder episode among the many sad ones is recorded in the history of English imaginative literature.—EDITOR.]

QUERIES.

[3,092.] MODES OF ASCENT.—Is it less tiresome to climb a flight of steps than walk to the same elevation by a regular incline? If so, how is it to be accounted for?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[3,093.] THE ROMAN MILESTONE IN NORTH WALES.—In the *Manchester City News* of March 24 mention is made of the discovery of a Roman milestone at Llanfairfechan, North Wales. Though tolerably familiar with that place I do not remember having noticed the relic in question. Can any reader inform me as to whether it is on the Aber Road; and, if so, if the road which runs along the coast from Conway to Bangor is a Roman road? Dean Swift on his journey to Holyhead seems to have travelled inland, which he would hardly have done had a good coast road, such as the one mentioned, existed in his day.

A.

Saturday, April 14, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE ROMAN MILESTONE IN NORTH WALES.

(Query No. 3,093, April 7.)

[3,094.] The milestone above mentioned was found in a field some half-mile from Llanfairfechan and between that place and Aber. It had doubtless been moved from its original position as marking the eighth mile from Conovium (the present Caer Hun, not Conway, as stated in your issue of March 24). The road was neither of those mentioned by your correspondent "A," but the road from Caer Hun through the wild pass of Bwlch-yr-Ddenfaen direct to Aber, which is about nine miles, and the eighth mile would be about parallel with the place where the stone was found. The fine coast road from Conway is modern and was completed and brought to its present form by the famous Telford. The road traversed by Dean Swift runs behind Conway through the wild and beautiful Sychnant Pass (where it is at the present day dangerous enough to those in vehicles or on horseback), past the village of Dwygyfylchi, and shortly after begins to ascend the shoulder of Pen Maen Mawr, passing closely the largest Druidical circles in North Wales, and then descending towards Aber. This portion of the journey must have been something terrible in the days of the witty Dean, and might well evoke the famous couplets said to have been written by him on the windows of two public-houses, one at each extremity:—

i.

Before you venture hence to pass,
Take a good refreshing glass.

ii.

Now you're over, take another,
Your drooping spirits to recover.

There is ample evidence that the district through which the Romans passed from Conovium to Segontium (the present Carnarvon), and especially the Vale of Conway, was well populated, and from remains at present existing one can almost people the surrounding heights with the alarmed and wondering Britons as the solid legions of mighty Rome marched over the Conway and took possession of the frowning height of Pen-y-Gaer, just above Caer Hun.

JOHN JOHNSON.

Trefriw, N.W.

* * *

The Roman milestone was found on Major Platt's

ground (high up on the mountain) by a number of his workmen who were engaged in digging for stones to build a wall. It was found face down in a field called Cae Gwag (empty field), and not very far from the old Roman road that leads to Caernarvon from Caer Hun, passing Tal-y-braich through Bulch-y-daufen to Aber-gwyn, Gregin. It seems to be an eight-mile stone, very likely indicating the distance to the old Roman fort of Caer Hun, or to the encampment on Pen-y-Gaer, near Llanbedr, or to Aber-gwyn, Gregin, where a desperate battle was fought. The distance to the above three places from where the stone was found is four miles, so I presume that miles were much shorter in the Emperor Hadrian's days. The stone is seven feet in length, of hard grit-stone, of a different nature to anything you see about here. It is placed near Major Platt's house, Gordinog, Llanfairfechan, where it can be seen. The letters on the stone, so far as they can be made out, are:—

IMP— CAES— TRAJ
ANVS HADRIANVS
AVG— P— M— TR. P—
P— P— CO—S III
AKANOVIO
M— P— VIII

Of course the letters are not so plain as the above, yet they can be traced with a little trouble. A friend sent me this morning the above inscription "filled up," and here it is:—

IMPERATOR CAESAR TRAJ
ANUS HADRIANUS
AUGUSTUS PONTIFEX MAXIMUS TRIBUNITIS POTESTATE
PATER PATRIAE CONSUL III
AKANOVIO
MILIA PASSUNNI VIII

The road from Conway to Bangor along the coast is not a hundred years old. The way before was along the sands (when the tide was out).

JOHN TAYLOR.

Llanbedr.

THE REBELS OF '45 AT STOCKPORT.

(Query No. 3,085, March 31.)

[3,095.] The Pretender's army left Manchester in three divisions. The Prince crossed the Mersey at the site of Lancashire Bridge, Stockport, the water reaching up to his waist. The horse and artillery forded the river at Cheadle; the third detachment at or near Stretford. The whole united at Macclesfield. Consult Lord Mahon's History; Byrom's Journal; Dr. Hibbert Ware.

XIPHIAS.

* * *

Local tradition says the Pretender's army crossed

the Mersey on its southward march from Manchester at the old ford at Gatley, the road to which is down the Millgate, Didsbury, and through Hadkinson's "folt." This road was the common highway into Cheshire within the memory of men now living. The end of Millgate Lane would probably be nearer the centre of Didsbury village or green, for there was a right of footpath past where the Didsbury Hotel now stands within the memory of several old inhabitants. It is probable the army may have crossed the river at several places, for, excepting in very wet weather or after heavy rain, the Mersey is fordable anywhere in this neighbourhood. When the rifle range was established in Gatley Carrs about 1861 I often went to practise shooting. As the distance to there from our house across the country and through the river is about a mile but to go by the road round Cheadle or Northenden is three to four miles, I generally waded through the river and have crossed it at various places. One evening I saw some water plant in one of the ditches at Gatley Carrs that seemed suitable for my aquarium; so I gathered a handful, squeeze the water out, and put the plant in my pocket. On arriving at home this was placed in a bowl of clean water to expand, when out swam a jack-sharp as lively as could be.

FLETCHER MOSS.

* * *

In Ray's *Compleat History of the Rebellion* (first edition, York, 1749), a somewhat scarce book now, after describing the taking of Manchester "by a sergeant, a drum, and a woman," and the arrival next day of the Pretender, who took up his quarters at "Mr. Dickanson's in Market-street Lane, and was proclaimed in form," Ray goes on to inform us that "on the 30th November (1745) an advanced guard of the Rebels marched, part for Stockport (by some called Stopford, being a market town on the edge of Cheshire, noted for its silk mills, and a very antient church; situated on the banks of the river Mersey, over which is a neat stone bridge which divides Lancashire and Cheshire), and the rest for Knotsford. The bridge over the river Mersey at Stockport being broke down by the Liverpool Blues, already taken notice of, they crossed over above where it stood." The "Liverpool Blues" alluded to were a body of 700 men raised in Liverpool, and clothed and paid by that town; they were employed in retarding the progress of the Rebels in the north by breaking down bridges. They finally joined the King's forces, and

were present at the siege of Carlisle (vide Ray's account, pages 119, 120.)

In the *Stockport Exhibition Gazette*, a journal of which only eighteen numbers were issued, published in connection with the first art exhibition at Stockport in the year 1840, in an article under the title of "Stockport as it was and is," there is a full account of this visit, and as it has a bearing upon Mr. LAWSON'S query, I will quote it:—

In the year 1745, when the Pretender penetrated with his Highlanders as far south as Derby, the only bridge across the river Mersey in this neighbourhood was the one leading from Bridge-street to Lancashire Hill. There was no bridge across the stream between Stockport and Warrington, so that the approach for an army to the south would of necessity be by one of these towns. The bridge at Stockport being destroyed to prevent the march of the rebels, this town escaped the presence of their force in its onward career; but on the retreat a body of about 1,500 entered the town one Sunday, and remained here till the following morning. They applied for billets at the chief constable's office, but that officer having secreted himself, they compelled his apprentice to billet the whole party, which he accordingly did. That apprentice was the grandfather of our present Town Clerk. The head-quarters were at the then (1745) best house in the Market Place, now (1840) occupied by Mr. Webb and Mr. Overton, and there Lord Elcho, who commanded the party resided during his brief sojourn. On leaving the town they crossed the bridge over the Goit, where the new bridge now stands; and making the round of Portwood, crossed the Tame to Lancashire Hill, thus resuming the road to the north. They took with them as hostages for the safety of their stragglers, some of the principal inhabitants of the town, but they did not commit any wanton depredation, although some of the shoeless rebels took the "brogues" from the feet of the better shod spectators, and they set their hostages at liberty at Manchester.

This *Gazette*, from which I have just quoted, is interesting from several local matters it contained. The late poet J. C. Prince was evidently a contributor. My eye just now falls on two temperance poems contributed by him, dated from Hyde, one April 23, 1840, and the other May 1840—the latter signed J. C. P. and the other with his name in full.

H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

Prince Charles Edward passed through Ashton-under-Lyne, via Audenshaw, but whether on his advance to or retreat from Manchester the writer is not aware. William Stopford, of the High Ash farm, Audenshaw, close by the Red Hall, and bordering upon Ashton Moss, shot one of the soldiers when passing the farm. Some of the other soldiers then

turned upon the house and set fire to it, first bayoneting or piercing the beds with their swords. It is not known whether they left the man who was shot. They did not stop to see the place burnt down, but continued their march. W. Stopford and his family made good their escape on to the adjoining moss, and returned in time, with the assistance of friends, to extinguish the fire before much damage had been done to the building. The writer has been told that the upper part of the staircase bore evidence some forty years back of the fire. Various alterations have since then been made in the farmhouse, and those traces may have been obliterated. The house is now used for local offices. The writer recently met with a gentleman residing near Denton, who told him that he had some years possession of a sword left on the farm by the passing soldiers. It bore French initials.

D. H.

Heaton Moor.

OLDHAM ROAD ACADEMY AND BENJAMIN

HANDFORTH.

(Nos. 3,069 and 3,090.)

[3,096.] Mr. James Collinge, in answer to a letter of mine, writes me as follows:—

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. R. Hampson is quite correct in stating that I never filled the office of superintendent at those schools. It is quite true, however, that by invitation I did occasionally visit both the Academy and the Sunday-schools—the master of the one and the conductors of the other being personal friends of mine. I notice with much pleasure that you specify the number of both day and Sunday schools which have been more or less connected with St. Paul's Church (formerly of Turner-street, and now of New Cross, Oldham Road) since the beginning of the present century. You also mention a goodly number of worthy and exemplary men who in their generation exercised a powerful influence for good in the education of the industrial classes in the first manufacturing emporium of the world. But you omit to mention two names that must ever be conspicuous in the educational history of Manchester, viz., David Stott and Benjamin Braidley, of St. Paul's No. 4 Schools, Bennett-street. You also in your interesting notes overlook the important fact that Messrs. Stott and Braidley along with a host of others scarcely less distinguished than themselves in the second decade of this century, established a series of evening classes, which really did the work of efficient day schools. As you know, similar classes were subsequently adopted by the managers of Church Sunday schools in general.—

JAMES COLLINGE.

I never attended Bennett-street School, and, as the memorials of that school are in a published volume, I did not think it necessary to collate any incidents relating thereto, nor could I discover any connection Mr. Handforth had there. I am disappointed none

of your correspondents have been able to give us any history of Gun-street School. EDWIN HARDON.

Heaton Norris.

QUERIES.

[3,097.] IRELAND.—What is the revenue derived by the imperial exchequer from Ireland, and how much does its government cost the nation? ION.

[3,098.] SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.—Can any reader give me any information about this place? It is, I believe, somewhere near Buxton, Derbyshire.

H. J. M.

[3,099.] BACUP.—Mr. J. Taylor Kay in the current number of the *Palatine Note-Book*, says that Bacup is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning the head of the stream. Would he, or one of your readers, be kind enough to give the Anglo-Saxon word supposed to represent the first syllable in Bacup, and cite any passage or any place-name in which this word, if there be one, signifies a stream; and mention, too, any passage or place-name in which the A.S. copp, a head in the sense of a prominence, signifies the head of a river.

H. C. M.

[3,100.] GIBBET LORE.—In an old issue of the *Hull Rockingham*, a smartly conducted newspaper, formerly published in this town, it is stated:—In May, 1809, two malefactors were being hanged at Chester when the ropes broke, and it was found that the inner strands had been previously cut. The execution was considerably delayed, because no one in the city would sell a rope for the purpose, and the felons had to wait whilst several small cords were being spliced together. Is this circumstance mentioned in any local historical work? WILLIAM ANDREWS.

Hull.

[3,101.] AN OLD MANCHESTER CLOCKMAKER.—Will some of your correspondents tell me who and where an old clockmaker lived in Manchester whose name I find on the face of a fine old clock, recently inherited from a relative? The name is James Sandiford, Manchester, done in plain capital letters over the dial, which shows the moon's changes. It is a handsome face, in brass-work. The clock still keeps perfect time, and is as they say "as good as new," though it must be near a century old. Any answer will oblige.

SILENCE BOSLEY.

Watford, Herts.

[3,102.] COMPOSITION AND FIFTEENS.—In an old town's book for the latter part of last century I find "composition" frequently mentioned. It was money

collected in some way, and entered in the parochial accounts. I can also remember hearing very old people speak of "composition money" as a sort of tax. What was it, and how was it levied? Also the term "fifteens" occurs frequently. The highway rates, and other local rates, were in some way based upon these "fifteens" as a sort of assessment. I am aware that there was a Government tax laid upon "fifteens," but how were these fifteens worked, especially in local taxation. Information will oblige.

W. N.

[3,103.] THE DOWNS FAMILY, SHROPSHIRE.—A correspondent writes me from New York as follows: "I desire to know if you can give me any information in regard to the families or whereabouts of Edward or Arnold Downs. My father, Walter Downs, enlisted in the British service, and, deserting, came to this country about seventy years ago, or more. He told his children that they had relations in Shropshire, but in which village they may live I have no idea. Is there any way to find out if any are about your city who may know of my father or his family?" Will Notes and Queries be able to shed any light on this man's father or his friends in Shropshire?

ALBERT D. SHAW.

U.S. Consulate, Manchester.

THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—You permitted me a few weeks ago to call attention to the position of the Chetham Society, and judging from the report of the annual meeting it would appear that my letter in what Mr. H. H. Howorth calls "the paper" (I hope he put an emphasis on "the"), has had the effect of bringing forth some explanation, though I venture to think not a satisfactory one. I write in sorrow, and not at all in anger, and in the interests of the society far more than of my own, which are only those of an individual member. Despite Mr. Crossley's anecdote about Dr. Johnson and his edition of Shakspeare, which he brought forward in order to show that the council of the Chetham Society had at least one precedent (a century old) in their favour, I apprehend that if an ordinary publisher had acted towards his subscribers as the Chetham council have done, the censure expressed would have been emphatic and universal. On what ground can a society claim to be judged by a different code?

The facts of the case are simple. The society is now three years in arrear. The annual report made a parade

of having issued one volume during the past year, but it did not state, what is the fact, that that book was due as long ago as 1880, and was itself a belated volume. Then the report went on to give reasons why the three volumes for 1881 and the three for 1882 have not yet been published. The first book mentioned was Mr. Corser's *Collectanea Anglo-Poetica*, part xi, which is said to be printed up to page 140, and is delayed for the preparation of an index to the entire work. I have no hesitation in saying that an excellent and perfectly satisfactory index to this work (which is all in type) could have been prepared by a competent index maker in a fortnight. It would have been a far wiser policy on the part of the council to have paid £10 for the execution of such an index by other than a "volunteer," than to have kept the type of their printer locked up for a period so long that they have to spend £100 in buying him new founts—a circumstance which is, I believe, unprecedented in the history of societies of this kind. A more signal instance of a want of ordinary business capacity and energy could not be adduced. Take another of the delayed publications—the *Diary of John Worthington*, vol. ii, part ii., completing the work. Will it be credited by anybody outside of the Chetham Society that the first part of this work was issued so long ago as 1856? It is all very well for the report to say that the editor's "engagements during the past year have prevented him from completing the copy for the press," but what about the twenty-seven years previously? Dr. Johnson's illustrious example will hardly suffice to palliate a delay of more than a quarter of a century. I will not follow Mr. Howorth into his plea for forbearance on account of the "rejuvenescence" of the society further than to say that the rejuvenescent period has not started well, for not one of the books that should have appeared during its first year (ending last month) has yet been issued, and all we are told in the report is that they "have been put in hand." The Rev. Canon Tonge might well say there is a growing feeling that the Chetham Society is not what it used to be.

AN OLD MEMBER.

THE DECLINE IN THE DEATH-RATE.—In a paper read before the London Statistical Society last week, Mr. N. A. Humphreys showed that at the end of 1880 a considerable decline had taken place in the death-rate in England as compared with the period 1838-54. The effect of this decline is to raise the mean duration of life among males from 40 to 42 years, and among females from 42 to 45 years. By far the largest proportion of the increased duration of life in England is lived at useful ages, and not at the dependent ages of either childhood or old age, representing a remarkable increase of the productive capability of human existence in England.

Saturday, April 21, 1883.

NOTES.

"REMOVE" IN SHAKSPEARE.

[3,104.] Readers acquainted with Shakspeare's English will not need to be reminded that the verb "remove" is not a merely grim euphemism of modern date. We find it used in *Othello* in exactly the same sense as that which recent events in Ireland have familiarized us with. In act iv., scene 2, we have the following dialogue:—

IAGO.—Unless his [Othello's] abode be lingered here by some accident: wherein none can be so determinate as the removing of Cassio?

RODERIGO.—How do you mean, removing him?

IAGO.—Why, by making him incapable of Othello's place—knocking out his brains.

RODERIGO.—And that you would have me do?

IAGO.—Ay, if you dare do yourself a profit and a right.
A. B.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AN OLD MANCHESTER CLOCKMAKER.

(Query No. 3,101, April 14.)

[3,105.] James Sandiford was married at the Collegiate Church, now Cathedral, 1762, August 4, to Ann Tongue, of Manchester, by licence; and he was probably the same James Sandiford who was buried at the same place April 12, 1775, aged fifty, and married.
J. OWEN.

GRIFFITH JAMES CHEESE.

(Nos. 3,067, 3,070, and 3,082.)

[3,106.] Referring to the late notes about the sometime organist of the Cathedral, it may interest you to know that I am in possession of the portrait of his daughter, Miss Cheese, which represents her to be about seventeen years old, of pleasing features, dark brown hair and eyes, and dressed in a low white dress with the high waist in vogue about sixty years ago. The portrait is fairly well painted, about thirty-three by thirty-three inches, and was purchased by my grandfather some sixty years since.
F. W. B.

Whalley Range.

AN EASTER-DAY PROVERB.

(No. 3,076, March 31.)

[3,107.] Mr. JAMES F. ROBINSON says that till a lady repeated it to him recently he never heard the Easter proverb:—

When rain falls on Easter Day
We get no grass, and little hay.

To me it has been familiar for years, but where I

picked it up I cannot say, as for years I was a great roamer through various counties in England. I have inquired of several parties in this district, and find that the proverb is known in this county (Warwickshire). I have also been informed by some who are well acquainted with Oxfordshire as well as Warwickshire that the proverb also runs thus:—

When rain falls on Easter Day

We get plenty of grass, but little good hay.

With regard to meteorological proverbs anent our moveable festivals, they often appear very contradictory, owing to the difference of time when the festivals are celebrated. Moreover, a proverb which will prove pretty correct in one latitude may be quite the reverse in another latitude. For instance, the weather of an early Easter in the Hebrides is quite a different climate to that in Devonshire at the same period. I apprehend this simple fact causes many apparent discrepancies in our weather proverbs.

H. R. FORREST.

Birmingham.

MODES OF ASCENT.

(Query No. 3,082, April 7.)

[3,108.] Perhaps not many would care to reflect upon so apparently trivial a question as this is, intimately as it is related to the art of climbing mountains with a minimum of fatigue.

In climbing an elevation, whether by a flight of steps, each step being fixed horizontally, or by a regularly inclined plane, there is a certain expenditure of force, compounded of that required to move the body along a horizontal plane equal in length to the base of the angle of elevation, and the force required to raise the weight of the body vertically the height of the elevation. That there is less fatigue in ascending by steps than by walking up a plane anyone may satisfy himself by experiment; and if he will carefully consider the difference between the two methods of locomotion, he will soon see why it is so. In walking upon level ground we naturally and almost necessarily place the heel of the foot down first, and in moving forward spring from the toes. In ascending by steps we do precisely the same, exerting only just so much additional force as will lift the body the height of the step. In walking up an inclined plane we first place our toes upon the ground, and immediately afterwards the heel upon a lower level, thus inducing irregular and strained flexure of the muscles of the foot. To sustain this increased angular flexure, additional force is required. An idea of this

extra force and consequent pain of it may be obtained by standing at ease, and then for a short time upon the sole of one foot and the heel of the other, with the sole turned upwards, as happens to it when walking up a hill. Another way of apprehending what takes place is by supposing oneself walking upon a horizontal plane with each step inclined backwards in the floor; or, again, by trying to walk upon the toes, which is somewhat analogous to walking down a hill, not nearly so easy as walking on a level.

It now seems clear why, with less fatigue, we can climb a hill spirally, although the distance gone over be longer, than by ascending in a straight line. Quadrupeds invariably do that, and it is always well to follow their paths where such exist.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

THE REBELS OF '45 AT STOCKPORT.

(Nos. 3,085 and 3,095.)

[3,109.] The route of a portion of the rebels would be somewhere near Gatley, for my father told me that the farmers in the neighbourhood drove their cattle for safety into a field on his farm—his grandfather's then—called the Mere-hey Pitstead. It is a small hollow field, approached by rising ground on either side, and from its secluded situation well suited for the purpose. Gatley ford was used as a highway in my own recollection.

R. H. ALCOCK.

Didsbury.

* * *

At Chorlton-cum-Hardy there is a footpath between two fields, which is known to old inhabitants as "Scotchells" or "Scotchills," and there is a tradition that the rebel army of '45, on retiring from Manchester, went by this foot-path. I have often thought that, as Mr. FLETCHER Moss says, it is probable the army crossed the river at several places, and that a small detachment may have crossed it at this village. I know not whether the ferry-boat then existed, known for so many years as "Jackson's Boat," but now changed to "Jackson's Bridge." I shall be glad of further information on the point.

J. T. S.

* * *

On the sloping side of a hill that looks down on the Etherow, and not far from the high road from Marple to Charlesworth, is an ancient-looking farmhouse, known locally as "Arnycroft;" real name, I suppose, either Ernecroft or Thorneycroft. According to local tradition, when the Pretender retreated from Derby a portion of his troops passed by this farm, and one of their number, who was either

wounded or too ill to proceed, was left in the barn. The occupants were afraid to give any assistance to the rebels, whom they scarcely looked on as human beings, but after dark some of the females stole out to the barn with some warm milk. The poor Highlander was nearly sped. He died before morning, and a grave was hastily dug for him by the side of an old road or "keaw-lone" (cow-lane), where he was deposited without burial service or other ceremony. The old road is still called "Th' Scot's Lone." It is also said that his claymore was kept for a number of years, and eventually utilized as a turnip-cutter! Another tradition says that when news came of the approach of the rebels, the then owner of Mellor Hall buried a quantity of silver plate in the earth near a small grove of trees called "Three Lows." On going to disinter it, however, he was made painfully aware that there were other mauraders besides the Scots. The plate had disappeared and was never recovered.

E. H. S.

Miles Platting.

THE BOOKS OF THE WORLD: STARTLING FIGURES.

Mr. Justin Winsor, the librarian of Harvard University, in a recent lecture on the Functions of a Library in a Community of Scholars, said:—"The ten million volumes constituting first and last the world's stock of books since the invention of printing, with an average edition of three hundred (which I think is low), will give an aggregate of three thousand million volumes put upon the world within the last four centuries. I doubt if of these three thousand million there are to-day in the United States fifteen millions of volumes outside of private houses and the book-shops, or say one-half of one per cent of the grand total."

THE ROMANS IN BRITAIN: DISCOVERY OF COINS.

An important discovery of Roman coins has just been made on the estate of the Earl of Darnley, at Cobham Hall, near Rochester, where, in digging up the roots of a tree a short distance from the hall, the workmen came upon a large earthenware jar, which was found to contain a quantity of Roman coins in bronze. The coins, which number between 800 and 900, mostly bear the date of the fourth century, or about 100 years before the Romans left Britain, and are chiefly of the reigns of the Emperors Constantine, Constans, and Constantius. It is worthy of note that many of the coins bear the "labarum," which was the first emblem of Christianity adopted by the Emperors. The spot where the coins were discovered was near to the old Roman Watling-street, which ran through Cobham wood towards London and the interior of the island. An immense number of Roman coins have from time to time been discovered in the neighbourhood of Rochester, where the Romans had a fortified station, on the site of which Rochester Castle now stands.

Saturday, April 28, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: II. MARSLAND-STREET.

[3,110.] The name of Marsland (otherwise Mars, land's) street, off Lower Cambridge-street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, was derived from that of a family, members of which were once owners of parts of the Chorlton Hall estate (Chorlton Row). In a deed dated in 1792, to which are parties (*inter alios*) Samuel Marsland, of Heaton Norris, merchant, and Peter Marsland, of Stockport, merchant, it is recited that the two Marslands, together with William Cooper and George Duckworth, had contracted to purchase from Roger Aytoun ("Spanking Roger," well known as once owner of Chorlton Hall, and as having a surname perpetuated in our "Aytoun-street"), for the sum of £42,914, the whole of the Chorlton Hall estate, including the Hall, then in the occupation of John Markland, Esquire, previously in that of Samuel Clowes, Esquire. Shortly after their purchase, Messrs. Cooper, Marslands, and Duckworth laid out a great part of the estate "into convenient plots for building upon, and into streets, roads, and ways to communicate therewith, and afterwards sold certain parts thereof not only for money but in consideration of certain clear yearly chief rents reserved to them therefrom." Samuel Marsland died on the 15th November, 1803, his will being dated the 26th day of the preceding month. After Samuel Marsland's decease, his three surviving co-purchasers effected a partition of the estate by a deed in which a "John Marsland, of Chorlton Row, merchant," figures as Mr. Peter Marsland's dower-trustee. The printed abstract of title (dated early in the present century), from which I have derived the foregoing information, describes Mr. Peter Marsland as "of Wood Bank, within Bredbury, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester, Esquire."

I find it stated in the *Pictorial History of the County of Lancaster* (1844) that in the year 1644 the Chorlton Hall Estate was sold for £300; the statement being made to enforce the fact of Manchester's wonderful growth since mid-Stuart times.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

THE CROMWELLIAN SETTLEMENT IN IRELAND.

[3,111.] Mr. Justin M'Carthy, in his *Outline of Irish History*, just published, writes of the Cromwellian settlement of Ireland thus:—

The rest of Ireland, except Connaught, was apportioned to satisfy the arrears of officers and soldiers. To keep the new settlers free from all Irish influences, Connaught was appointed as a reservation for the Irish, and all English holding lands in Connaught were allowed to exchange them for estates of equal value in other parts of Ireland. *The Irish were then driven and cooped into Connaught.* They were not allowed to appear within two miles of the river or four miles of the sea, and a rigorous passport system was established, to evade which was death without form of trial. . . . The plantation of the unhappy Irish in Connaught was slowly and sternly accomplished. . . . But the unhappy wretches who got to Connaught were not at the end of their misery. . . . The transplanted, rich and poor, were wretchedly lodged in smoky cabins or under the open air, and lay down and measured out their graves in common confusion and misery, peer with peasant, starved to death.

Is this a true description of what happened? Ireland has suffered bitter evils, many of them due to her own uncontrolled passions and vindictive ferocity, others to the rapacity, bigotry, and ignorance of Englishmen. It serves no purpose to exaggerate or misrepresent the facts of history, for whatever people they tell favourably or unfavourably. The sufferings of the aristocracy in the Cromwellian settlement were the closing chapters to the fearful years which followed from the rising in 1641, when thousands of English (men, women, and children) were outraged and brutally massacred, shot in water like ducks, hacked to pieces, and buried alive. The rising itself was the outcome of the crafty tyranny of Wentworth, the Lieutenant of Ireland, but the conditions which he manipulated had themselves grown out of previous evils. Englishmen of to-day have no pleasure in hiding the faults of their ancestors, nor do they, like Irishmen, linger over the memory of their past wrongs and grievances till they are an insurmountable barrier to hearty goodwill between the peoples of this generation. All that Englishmen claim is, that the facts of history shall be fairly presented. Now, Mr. M'Carthy's statement is so much at variance with the story told by Carlyle, that I write in the hope that some of your readers will be able to enlighten me as to which account is correct.

Mr. Carlyle is discussing the wild story, started in Clarendon's *History*, that the Parliament had intended to "exterminate" the Irish population, but finding this would not do, had packed them into the pro-

vince of Connaught, "there to live upon the moorlands," and by this "had pacified the sister island" (England). He says:—

The real procedure of the Puritan Commonwealth towards Ireland is not a matter of conjecture, or of report by Lord Clarendon; the documentary basis and scheme of it still stands in black and white, and can be read by all persons. In this document the reader will find, set forth in authentic business form, a scheme of settlement, somewhat different from that of extermination. . . First, it appears by this document, "all husbandmen, ploughmen, labourers, artificers, and others of the meaner sort" of the Irish nation, are to be—not exterminated; no, but rendered exempt from punishment and question as to these eight years of blood and misery now ended; which is a very considerable exception from the Clarendon scheme!

The rebellious landlords, aristocracy, and ringleaders were to be dealt with, after due trial, in such a manner "that punishment and guilt may in some measure correspond." All "proved to have been concerned in the massacre of Forty-one" were to be punished with death or banishment and confiscation. Those who had been concerned in the rebellion, but not in the massacre, "were declared to have forfeited their estates, but lands to the value of one-third of the same, as a modicum to live upon, shall be assigned them where the Parliament thinks safest—in the moorlands of Connaught, as it turned out." Others, "who were open Papists, and have *not* manifested their good affection to the Parliament," were "to forfeit one-third of their estates, and continue quiet at their peril." This document was carried out as nearly as any document could be carried out in those times. I have quoted more fully than your space may warrant, but to have been briefer might possibly have given one or the other narrative an unfair twist.

Each narrative produces a very different impression. Mr. M'Carthy thrills us with the awful picture of the whole Irish race in the country being driven into and packed in Connaught. Carlyle's account briefly tells us that the people—"husbandmen, ploughmen, labourers, artificers, and others of the meaner sort"—were not to be touched, but to remain quiet where they were. Indeed, if this were not what actually happened, it is difficult to understand how it came about, as Mr. M'Carthy says, that "forty years later many of the children of Cromwell's troopers could not speak a word of English."

It would seem that Mr. M'Carthy's account is an exaggeration, and the events he records answers it. Perhaps some of your historical students may help

me to a correct understanding of what was the exact nature, in word and in fact, of the Cromwellian settlement. X.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE REBELS OF '45 AT STOCKPORT.

(Nos. 3,085, 3,095, and 3,109.)

[3,112.] As further testimony to the information already given about the passage of the Scotch army into Cheshire, I may perhaps be allowed to mention another fact. That portion of the army passing through Didsbury, by way of the old Milngate ford, had a skirmish with the enraged inhabitants on the ground since called Scotscroft, also Kingston, which is now pretty well covered with houses, but was then, of course, open space, and adjoining Milngate Lane. Also the rising ground or "brow" of Stenner Lane, below the Parish Church, was called Duke's Hill until very recently, when the road surveyors or Local Board dubbed it Spring Hill, and was always said to have been so called since the time we are alluding to, when a duel (or more likely a free fight) took place there, in which some Duke was slain. In the Church register for December 10, 1745, there occurs the entry of burial of "a poor man killed at Heaton by the rebels," and in another place for the same month there is an entry of four shillings paid to the ringers "when news was brought of ye conquest over ye rebels." I have always understood that poor Mr. Jemmy Dawson, who was hanged by the Scotch in Manchester (and the hero of Shenston's poem) was betrothed to one of the Miss Broomes, of Didsbury, of Broome House, which still stands near to the new chapel. I could give yet more information concerning the fact of the army crossing the Mersey by way of the Didsbury-Gatley ford, but hear that another correspondent is intending to do so. M.

AN OLD MANCHESTER CLOCKMAKER.

(Nos. 3,101 and 3,105.)

[3,113.] I do not see that the reply to my inquiry as to an old Manchester clockmaker has any bearing on the subject. I was born in Manchester, as was also my great grandfather, to whom the clock belonged. I should like to know in what street James Sandiford lived, and if he was a maker of note. The clock is very handsome and keeps such good time that the maker must have been well up to his business. I fancy the shop must have been one of those old half-timber houses in Smithy Door.

Of course James Sandiford may have been married and buried at the Cathedral in 1775, but the register would most likely have stated his trade.

SILENCE BOSLEY.

Watford, Herts.

GUN-STREET SCHOOL.

(Nos. 3,069, 3,090, and 3,096.)

[3,114.] Mr. Alderman Lamb has kindly sent me a letter on the subject of my notes relative to Oldham Road Academy and the late Benjamin Handforth, from which I extract the following respecting Gun-street School:—

Gun-street School was either given or lent to St. Paul's by a Mr. Newton, and was called No. 1 School; but I cannot say at what date. How it ceased to be used by St. Paul's scholars I cannot tell. I think the room was no longer needed, and there was no one to look after and keep it in repair. Since then the room has been used for meetings and various purposes, and I understand that the person who now holds it has really no claim to its ownership except the possession, which is said to be nine points of the law.

EDWIN HARDON.

Heaton Norris.

* * *

Mr. Alderman HARDON, in his last note, expresses surprise that no correspondent has been able to give the history of Gun-street School. At the end of the *Bennett-street Memorials* (a book the value of which is greatly diminished by the want of an index), there is the following brief notice of the school and its founder:—

Did any of our readers ever see a queer little Sunday-school in Gun-street, one of the purlieus of Ancoats? If not, let them hunt it out and gaze with admiration on its humble walls. Over the door they will see an oval stone tablet bearing this inscription: "The gift of Simeon Newton, for the use of Sunday Schools. Nov. 12, 1788." And who was Simeon Newton? Answer: We cannot tell. Touching him the voice of Fame is silent; but we have in our mind a dim fancy (for the truth of which, however, we will not vouch) that the said Simeon Newton was, like Newton of Olney, once a sailor, and made a pious vow in a storm that, coming safe to land, he would build a Sunday-school for the edification of the ignorant.

The notice goes on to refer to Thomas Stott, the head-master of the school about 1820, and to his son, David Stott, the founder of Bennett-street Sunday School. It should not be difficult, one would think, even yet to discover some facts elucidatory of the earlier history of the humble little institution which was founded some ninety-five years ago, and which was in its way the mainspring and origin of much greater things.

ION.

QUERIES.

[3,115.] THE MAYOR OF ALTRINCHAM.—When and how was the Mayor of Altrincham created; and what, if any, are his functions? ENQUIRER.

[3,116.] "THE DEVIL LOOKING OVER LINCOLN." In Scott's *Kenilworth* I came across the following passage:—"Here be a set of good fellows willing to be merry; do not scowl on them like the devil looking over Lincoln." Can any of your readers throw any light on the latter sentence? J. K. D.

A CHAPTER OF LANCASHIRE FAMILY HISTORY.

THE STANDISHES OF DUXBURY AND MILES STANDISH.

On the 17th of August, 1871, the Standish Memorial Association consecrated ground for a monument to the memory of Captain Miles Standish, on the hill named from himself, "Captain's Hill," Duxbury, Massachusetts.

Captain Miles Standish was born at Duxbury, near Chorley, in 1584. The old Duxbury house was far more ancient than the modern hall of that name, and has no vestige of its site remaining; but is believed to have been situated near to the Mill of Duxbury, a structure rebuilt as time progressed, yet still occupying the same position on the bank of the Yarrow as it did in the earliest settlement of the Standish family on the property. Near to this Mill of long-established memory ran the portion of the oldest-formed Lancashire road between Wigan and Preston; and the millers of former days have witnessed some memorable passages of troops along the rude, ill-kept country way. By this place passed Lord Molineux, in 1643, when summoned by the King to repair to Oxford, to the grievous disappointment of James, Earl of Derby; and on this old road, once a county thoroughfare, now but a way to the Mill, on private property, Prince Rupert passed at the head of a large army, on his march to York. After the battle of Ribblesdale, or Walton-le-Dale, in 1648, Cromwell with his forces occupied the country from Preston to Chorley, he himself sleeping at Astley Hall, next day passing on southwards to Wigan with the bulk of his forces, a portion being despatched across the moors to Bury for the attack and demolition of the Castle, once the stronghold of Adam de Burgh. By this route, in 1715, General

Carpenter advanced from Warrington to Preston, to meet the Scottish insurgents in the cause of the Pretender.

The earliest named ancestors of the Standishes are Thurston de Standish and Ralph Standish, whose family was divided, being afterwards designated as the "Standishes of Standish," and the "Standishes of Duxbury." On this separation Jordan Standish became proprietor of the estate of Standish, upon his brother Hugh devolving that of Duxbury, one upholding the Catholic the other the Protestant faith. After a title had been accorded to the Duxbury branch, we have mention in 1442 of Sir Rowland Standish, knight, and of Dame Jane, his wife, who, on returning from a stay in Normandy, brought over with them as precious relics, the "skull and thigh-bones of St. Lawrence," which, with all due honour and solemnity, were deposited in a mural recess in the parish church, Chorley, and considered as singularly acceptable—the church being dedicated to that saint.

The Standishes were often zealous in their religious attachment; and, about the time when the division of the family into opposite principles of belief took place, Henry Standish, of the Order of Franciscans, Doctor of Divinity of Cambridge, and Bishop of St. Asaph, before the Reformation, being deeply concerned for the peril which threatened his Church, sought an interview with Henry the Eighth; and, falling on his knees, earnestly besought the King to change his views as to the projected disestablishment of religious houses; and to protect and continue the "holy and pious foundations" of his ancestors. This prelate, at the period of his remonstrance to the Monarch, was of greatly advanced age; and died in this time of trouble A.D. 1535. John Standish, nephew to the above, wrote a book against the translation of the Bible into the English language, and presented it to Parliament. He died in 1556, in the reign of Queen Mary.

During the life of Sir Richard Standish of Duxbury, a lead mine was discovered, in 1688, on his lands of Anglezark, purchased from the family of Ashawe on the Hill. The mine was worked for a while with success, but was eventually closed from some engineering difficulty presenting itself which the science of the day was unable to conquer or comprehend; and after remaining unproductive for about thirty years, was reopened by Sir Thomas Standish; again closed; and once more re-

opened by Sir Thomas's son, Sir Frank Standish—the last to bear the title—in the year 1770. Sir Frank caused fresh levels to be driven from the foot of the hills to the heart of the mine, in order to carry off the water and enable the men to work; but after having engaged several sets of men, who all conspired to defraud him of their time, and endeavoured to impress his mind with an idea of the small quantity of ore that could be procured, at the moment when they were practising various arts to induce him to lease the mine to them, he became tired of mining, and in 1790, after he had sunk many thousands of pounds, the work was again discontinued. The quantity of carbonate of barytes found here was once reported to be immense, much greater than that of the lead ore; but as the metallic ore was raised, this was left behind as of no value; until Dr. Withering and Dr. Crawford, at a more recent day, drew the attention of Europe to this newly-discovered mineral, so that its real nature and properties became fully recognized and understood. The first time any idea was given to the owners of the value of this spar was in the year 1782, by the arrival of two Frenchmen, who were in Chorley some days without the nature of their business being suspected; until it was discovered that they had been exploring the workings of the deserted lead-mine on the Anglezark hills, filling two chests with specimens of the spar, which they secured with great care and sent off by carriers before they left the town. How the mine was made known to them, or whose agents they were, has never been discovered.

Of the Standishes of Standish, the most noticeable after Henry of St. Asaph, the ecclesiastic before mentioned, is Captain Standish, holding a commission in the army of the King, in the attack upon Manchester, September, 1642, by the Royalist forces, under James Lord Strange, son of the Earl of Derby; Manchester for the Parliament, being defended solely by its inhabitants, Salford having declared for the King. The difference in the two families bearing the name of Standish is exemplified in the opposite career of the cousins, nearly of the same age, and of the same military rank; Miles, of Duxbury, having given advocacy to liberty of conscience and freedom from kingly and priestly influence; whilst his relative maintained the "Old Faith," and sought to support a Stuart's falling fortunes.

In the first attempt on Manchester, the Royalists made some little way in the town, but were driven

out ; on the second, the streets by which they might approach were barricaded, and Salford Bridge, the only avenue of entrance, prepared for defence, which was so well maintained, that, with a loss of twelve men, the assailants lost twenty-seven. On Sunday, September 25th, Lord Strange and Lord Molineux again occupied the old street of Salford, with the most formidable force they could collect—four thousand foot, two hundred dragoons, one hundred light horse, and seven pieces of cannon, arranged for a more decisive and effectual attack than the previous ones had been. The main effort, necessarily as before, was at the Bridge, the struggle lasting several days, when the siege—for such it had proved—was abandoned as unsuccessful, the Royalists having two hundred killed, whilst the defenders acknowledged only to a loss of four, and as many wounded.

It was during this episode of war that Captain Standish lost his life. He was stationed with his company almost in the key of the position, that is, at the bottom of Greengate, no obstacle intervening between the road and the river. At this end of the street, fronting Manchester, was the spacious dwelling house of Robert Widdows, which had been taken possession of by Captain Standish. At an early hour of the attack in the morning, the Captain advanced a little way from the door, in the direction of the Bridge, to satisfy himself of a movement then proceeding, and was killed instantaneously by a bullet through his heart, the shot being directed from the tower of the Old Church, across the river. His men, seeing their leader fall, all ran away. This was on the 29th, and the assault proving so entirely disastrous, Salford was evacuated by the aggressive troops, and left once more to an undisturbed quiet; having no further experience of the horrors of civil warfare or the march of hostile forces, until a century later in the entry from Wigan of Prince Charles Edward and his army of Highlanders.

Of Captain Standish's men, who so "retreated," it may be said—their hearts were not in the fight. Poor fellows! Lads and men; many from the Standish estate, and others impressed from rural labours in the surrounding country, all too glad to find themselves, after this brief warlike experience, on the road towards home.

Miles Standish was educated to the military profession, and early received a commission as lieutenant in Queen Elizabeth's forces on the Continent, in aid of the Dutch. He repaired to the Netherlands, the

seat of war, remaining there a while after peace was declared, and then joined a body of English refugees at Leyden. He soon after associated himself with the company of pilgrim Puritans who were endeavouring to reach a British colony in North America; and, although not then a member of their religious community, engaged with zeal and resolution in the enterprise, and embarked with the first company of one hundred souls, comprising forty men, the rest women and children. Miles, accompanied by his wife, Rose, was at this time, 1620, of the age of thirty-six, possessed of an active genius, a sanguine temper; and, though small in stature, of a strong constitution. The vessel, the now celebrated Mayflower, first cast anchor in Province-town harbour; but after spending nearly a month in various expeditions, surveying the different bays and channels, Captain Standish reported in favour of the harbour now known as Plymouth as a settling point; and here, accordingly, the final landing was made.

He was soon elected to the chief military command—a command considered of prime necessity at that time in the new settlement—which position he retained for thirty-six years, until his death at the age of seventy-two. It is said there are few parallels in the governing power and influence he exercised at this period of the early establishment of the colony. A man of war, yet loving peace; mighty in battle, yet a sustaining tower of strength to the settlement in all its administrations. His courage was indisputable. A leader in every hazardous undertaking, the people, confiding in his bravery and prudence, were ever ready to place themselves under his command; and, in the most trying conflicts, felt themselves secure. His nature was hopeful and impulsive, but through the whole course of his life he seemed to exercise a wonderful control over his passions. Miles Standish combined, in an eminent degree, the practical use of intuition and intellect; and when convinced of the wisdom of a plan, however suddenly made, he executed it with rapidity. His actions show a forbearance rarely met with in one of his profession; whilst in the time of decisive action, his courage and perseverance were equal to the boldest resolutions, no one could ever charge him with failure in point of obedience, or of wantonly exceeding the limits of his commission. Near the close of life he was made commander of the expedition against the Dutch, who, from their settlement westward on the Island of Manhattan (New York), continually

gave trouble to the colonies of New England, and, though far advanced in years, was still considered the best person upon whom this mission could devolve. The service to his countrymen was of scarcely less importance in their civil than in their military affairs. He held the office of assistant and deputy during the whole of his life amongst them; was treasurer of the colony from 1644 to 1649, and once was sent to England as their agent. This was in 1625, and he arrived in an unfortunate time; a plague then raging in London that carried off forty thousand people, business was stagnated, merchants and others interested in the conduct of the colony were dispersed, and no meeting could be holden, and Standish sorrowfully returned to Plymouth in the spring of 1626. This trouble was aggravated by the fact that a ship, accompanying the one he sailed in to London, laden with a full and valuable cargo of the finest furs of North America, the result of four years' barter and accumulation, was captured by a Turkish pirate, its loss being a severe blow to the colony.

Longfellow's description of the doughty old soldier, Miles Standish, may be accepted as most true and apt:—

In the old colony days, in Plymouth the land of the pilgrims,
To and fro in a room of his simple and primitive dwelling,
Clad in doublet and hose, and boots of Cordovan leather,
Strode, with a martial air, Miles Standish, the Puritan Captain.

Buried in thought he seemed, with his hands behind him, and pausing
Ever and anon to behold his glittering weapons of warfare,
Hanging in shining array along the walls of the chamber—

Cutlass and coralet of steel, and his trusty sword of Damascus,
Curved at the point, and inscribed with its mystical Arabic sentence,
While underneath, in a corner, were fowling-piece, musket, and match-lock.

Short of stature he was, but strongly-built and athletic,
Broad in the shoulders, deep-chested, with muscles and sinews of iron;
Brown as a nut was his face, but his russet beard was already
Flaked with patches of snow, as hedges sometimes in November.

From a loving remembrance of the scenes of his boyhood and ancient home in Lancashire, Miles Standish wished their settlement to be named Duxbury; the embarkation from England to be

commemorated in "Plymouth," bestowed upon the rocky Massachusetts landing-place; and since given as a name to the county. In this township of Duxbury, 1630, a portion of land was awarded their leader by the colony, which has since been known as the Standish farm. Upon this farm the celebrated "Captain's Hill" is situated, now the site of a monument to his memory. This consists of a tower of stone one hundred feet high, and thirty feet in circumference at the base—the first thirty feet of hewn blocks; the rest of rough, broken granite, surmounted by a statue of Captain Miles, fourteen feet high. The situation commands a view of the "rocky-bound New England shore," where the Mayflower came to an anchorage. Miles's wife, Rose, the wife of his youth, who accompanied him from Europe, died January 1621, a month after the landing; being one of the first to fall a victim to the privations of that terrible first winter. His second wife, Barbara, survived him; and he left one son, Alexander.

Of John Alden, the captain's friend, and the Priscilla to whom he was made ambassador, and received the intimation "Speak for yourself, John," the following from the *Boston News Letter*, of June 17th, 1717, published by Benjamin Franklin, is of interest:—

"Luite, Compton, Mass., May 31, 1717.

This morning died here Mrs. Elizabeth Paybody, wife of Mr. William Paybody, in the ninety-third year of her age. She was the daughter of John Alden and Priscilla his wife, daughter of William Mullins. This John Alden and Priscilla Mullins were married at Plymouth, in New England, where their daughter, Elizabeth, was born. She was exemplary, virtuous, and pious, and her memory is blessed."

In the Plymouth Museum there is now preserved, with great care, a piece of ancient needlework, a sampler in coloured silks, now sadly faded, embroidered in 1655, by a daughter of Captain Standish, and bearing these words:—

"Lorea Standish is my name.
Lord, guide my heart that I may doe Thy will;
Also fill my mind with such convenient skill
As may conduce to virtue, void of shame,
And I will give the glory to Thy name."

Sir Thomas Standish, of Duxbury Hall, Chorley, died 1756; his son, Sir Frank Standish, the last baronet, died in London 1812, leaving no direct heir. For some time, whilst succession to the estates was still in abeyance, and lawyers occupied in prosecuting

inquiries, the most extraordinary scenes and proceedings took place within the family mansion, and on its adjoining grounds; the occasion being this. A coal-miner from the Standish estate—who there is little doubt, had some authority for his claims, and bearing the name of “Tom” Standish—asserted his right to be considered the true heir, and put forward his pretensions by taking possession of the property, establishing himself and friends in the house, into which forcible entry was made by breaking open the doors, the house having been closed pending legal investigation. These not very-desirable gentlemen installed themselves, as whim or accommodation dictated, throughout the sleeping chambers and stately reception rooms; costly carpets and luxurious couches proving not at all objectionable for their fullest use; the only drawback to comfort being that, excepting furniture and shelter, the house offered nothing in the victualling department; each man being under the necessity of bringing his own provisions for the period he might remain. In the interest of “Tom” these grimy fellows came to Duxbury Hall, in alternate companies, to keep “watch and ward” during the intervals of labour in the “pits;” the object being to maintain the house in a condition to resist the entrance of those who were not considered favourable to their friend’s assumption of “his rights.” One door only was kept for entrance, and that was carefully guarded. All the lower windows were boarded up within, or barricaded by heavy pieces of furniture drawn up against them. For this purpose nothing was spared, nothing respected. The park and gardens were put to a new use—that of being a recreation ground for the colliery lads and men of the surrounding district, even from so far as Wigan. Scenes of turbulence and disorder were of daily occurrence from the attraction offered to the idle and dissolute. From want of supervision at the time, or due intelligence, these proceedings continued too long unchecked; the neighbouring magistracy being undecided what steps to take in the emergency. “Tom,” at length, was arrested as the ringleader, and conveyed to Lancaster Castle. His comrades, consequently, abandoned any further attempt to maintain a lodgment in the hall, but free use of the grounds was persevered in for a considerable while. Such numbers at times were present, that the place acquired much notoriety, and very rough games were practised; the Saturday “sports” in each week becoming characterized as “Duxbury

Races, and Yarrow Bridge Fairs,” a local song, of which the following is a verse, being freely sung:—

From Wigan the constables brave did repair
To Duxbury Races and Yarrow Bridge Fair;
To keep our true landlord our efforts did fail,
They carried Sir Thomas to Lancaster Jail.
But we’ll fetch him back,
He nothing shall lack,

And in spite of the lawyers and Mister Frank Hall,
He shall ride in his carriage to Duxbury Hall.

“Tom” Standish was believed by his friends to be not only a legitimate claimant to the estates, but also entitled to the baronetcy; hence he was always scrupulously named as “Sir Thomas.”

Frank Hall, the fortunate inheritor (in the female line), only occasionally lived at Duxbury; his favourite residence being the city of Seville, in Spain, and his income largely spent in the acquisition of works of art. He did not marry, the offer of his alliance with the daughter of Sir Henry and Lady Hoghton being declined. Through life he suffered from the infirmity of being almost helpless on his feet; the sinews having no elasticity whatever rendered it difficult for him to walk, and never able to mount a horse without assistance. Some of his continental purchases of pictures were of rather questionable morality; and one of this character of large size—perhaps by way of joke—was forced upon the acceptance of “Parson” Jackson, of Rivington, to whose house—to the dismay of Mrs. Jackson—it was sent with the donor’s compliments. The difficulty of retaining the painting with the avoidance of uncharitable remarks was overcome by a clever suggestion from the “Parson,” that it should be permanently hung behind the heavy folds of curtain at the head of the capacious “best bed,” in the spare room; and there it was accordingly placed, in close proximity to the head of any unsuspecting visitor who might chance to occupy the chamber.

In the boyhood of Thomas de Quincey he was for a while placed as pupil and boarder with Mr. Jackson; attending the ancient school of Rivington, which, under the headmastership of this clever and somewhat eccentric divine, maintained a high reputation amongst scholarly men, and doubtless led to its selection in this instance, but with unavailing result. The village of Rivington, then most wild and lonely, situated on the border-land of hills and moors rising above Horwich, and overlooked by the cloud-capped Pike, seemed most uncongenial to the wayward boy from Manchester; ending in a fixed dislike

to the place, the master, the school, and all thereto pertaining. Without the slightest intimation of his purpose, De Quincey left the house early after midnight, and walked to Liverpool, more than thirty miles distant, over rough country roads, enduring hardships greater than that he fled from, in the endeavour to escape from conditions that had not met his approval.

Frank Hall Standish—taking the latter name on accession to the property—was anxious to revive the family title, which had lapsed at the death of Sir Frank in 1812; and, in later years, the influence of Lord Palmerston was courted in the matter. He, however, proved inexorable, although it was represented that, should the demand be favoured, the valuable paintings and statuary accumulated at Duxbury Hall would be offered to the national acceptance. Piqued at his non-success, the collection was bestowed upon France, through Louis Philippe, and is now known in the Louvre as the "Standish Gallery."

Frank Hall Standish died at Seville in 1840—his body being brought over for interment in the family vault at Chorley—and the Duxbury-Standish estates were once more in want of a successor. After another delay, the heir was at length found in the person of William Carr, of Durham, then residing at Nice, who acquired possession, and, according to custom, took the name of "Standish" in addition to his own.

The family pew in the Old Church of Chorley is of oak, well preserved, surmounted by a canopy bearing the family arms, duly quartered, and well carved; the whole supported by three serpentine-fluted columns on each side, also decorated with carvings. In a lower part of the east window of the Church are the arms of Standish, emblazoned with fourteen quarterings. Of this old church of Chorley it has been conjectured that the more ancient portion was built in Norman times to accommodate the tenantry of a Thane. In the quaintly-embellished pew of his ancestors, a growing youth accompanying his parents, the staunch New England Puritan soldier has sat, dutifully conning his Prayer-book, or the "Lessons" for the Day; whilst, from the tower, in pleasant unison, have floated for many centuries the chime of its bells over the woods and wilds of his native English home—a sound often perhaps recalled amid the after-trials and triumphs of his stirring life in the far-away land of his adoption. MARY ROBERTS.

Bristol.

Saturday, May 5, 1883.

NOTES.

THE LEVITICAL DISTINCTIONS AS TO ANIMAL FOOD.

[3,117.] What is there of scientific or hygienic value in the prohibitions of animal food contained in the law of Moses? The test of a "clean" animal was that it should be cloven-footed and a ruminant (Levit. xi.) By most people the prohibition of the use of all other animals for food is regarded as peculiar to the Hebrew people upon whom it was directly enjoined, either as being part of the moral discipline to which that people was subjected, or as containing sanitary regulations which, however appropriate in as eastern climate, have no application to nations existing under widely different conditions. One does, however, still occasionally meet with individuals who look upon the law as of universal obligation, believing that it embodies a divinely communicated code which will be found in harmony with scientific principle. Such a one was the late Dr. Adam Clarke, the well-known Wesleyan minister of the early part of this century, who, being upon one occasion asked to say grace at a table supplied with pork, did so in the following characteristic terms:—"Lord, if Thou canst bless under the gospel what Thou didst curse under the law, bless the pig!" As regards the flesh of this particular animal, it is generally believed, despite its popularity in this country, that there is some foundation for the assertions as to its unwholesomeness and indigestibility. The Hebrews were by no means the only ancient eastern people who abstained from its use, as it was strictly forbidden to the Egyptian priests, to the Arabians, the Phœnicians, the Ethiopians, and others.

W. H.

USQUEBAH.

[3,118.] In Burns's third Epistle to Lapraik is the following stanza:—

Your friendship, sir, I winna quat it,
An' if ye mak objections at it,
Then han' in niove some day we'll knot it,
An' witness take,
An' when wi' usquebah we've wat it,
It winna break.

I have often wondered what this irrevocable bond of friendship could be. The other day I met with the following prescription:—

To two gallons of brandy [I should say Scotch whisky]
put a pound of Spanish liquorice, half a pound of
raisins of the sun, four ounces of currants, and three

of sliced dates; the tops of baum (balm?), mint, savory, thyme, and the tops of the flowers of rosemary, of each two ounces; cinnamon and mace well bruised, nutmegs, aniseeds, and coriander seeds, bruised likewise, of each four ounces; of citron, or lemon and orange peel, scraped, of each an ounce; let all these infuse forty-eight hours in a warm place, often shaken together; then let them stand in a cool place a week; after which the clear liquor is to be decanted off, and to it is to be put an equal quantity of neat white port and a gallon of canary; after which it is to be sweetened with a sufficient quantity of double-refined sugar!

Talk of nectar, nepenthe, or decoctions of lotus; they must have been dish-water in comparison with usquebah. Had Circe known of this Ulysses would never have left her, and Homer's famous story would have been of a different complexion. O, ye shades of Isis and Osiris; and thou, too, immortal Samoan, inventor of the multiplication table and the forty-seventh of Euclid's first book! had ye but tasted usquebah, Buddha and Mahomet would never have been heard of, and the bitter controversy as to who discovered the Higher Calculus would have been spared!

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL CUSTOMS OF FORMER TIMES.

[3,119.] A distinguished alumnus of the Manchester Grammar School, for many years head of a well-known college at Oxford, who had been a Divinity Professor and was afterwards a Bishop, revisited the town at the time of the holding of the Art Treasures Exhibition. He also visited his old school, and was taken round it by the purple-visaged "porter," well-known to many generations of boys as Old Wilson. The distinguished visitor at last observed, standing behind the high-master's seat, next to the cane and gown awmbry, a small, solid, square, low, black oak table. Pointing to this with an emotion that brought tears to his eyes, he said, "Ah! Often have I been laid on that table." This relic of the past will be well remembered, but few will have known to what purposes it had been sacred, or why it was so carefully preserved. It was the "equuleus"—the school "horse"—of old days! The venerable and gracious visitor next pointed out where the boys used to fish, and also where "they fought the cocks" when he was at the school. This naturally astonished Wilson, who, apparitor and "knocknobler" as he was at St. John's, looked with some awe on the stately visitor.

The explanation is simple. Manchester school long kept up the Shrovetide customs of cock-fighting and shying at cocks with broomsticks, as is noted in

Chambers's *Book of Days*. These cocks were provided by the masters, and the fees paid for them by the boys eked out their stipends. Besides cock-fighting on Shrove Tuesday there was also cock-shying, that is throwing with broomsticks at gallus gallinaceus tied to the top of a post. Whether this was a relic of the olden shooting at the popinjay I leave to others to say. On Ash Wednesday, when there "were no more cocks," left (?) a puppet was set up to shy at, and it was called Jack-a-Lent, a name familiar to readers of the early dramatists. I can only again query, Was this set up in default of cocks or was it typical of a starveling, and so of the temps maigre of Lent? If the latter is answerable in the affirmative, it will be another instance of the customs of the Middle Ages which blended things most sacred with things most burlesque. It may be from Jack-a-Lent that our still popular Aunt Sally is lineally descended.

The words cock-shy and cock-shot, familiar to boys and men in Lancashire and elsewhere, may come from throwing at cocks. If a couple of boys find an old teapot or pop-bottle it is set on the nearest stump or wall with the joyous cry, "now for a cock-shy!" Each in turn aims with a stone at the object from a distance of some yards—"bating fair"—until a lucky throw breaks it.

The old and correct name of mortar-cap has very naturally been parodied into mortar-board. The present writer, by means of a little playful satire in the old *Free Lance*, was the unknown instrument of banishing that absurd and dangerous nuisance from the School as far as its compulsory use went. Many a fight and many a flight have the roughs of Greengate and Broughton Road caused him by its desecration. It was a serious expense, moreover, to sons of poor working men, clerks, and still poorer clergymen and professional men, as the boys were—*pace* the mouthers and spouters who, at the time the necessary transformation of the School came about through the decline of the funds, got up on platforms and said anything that would make for the side which they for purposes of social convenience had adopted. But this is apart. The mortar was a kind of cap worn by knights and others in the Middle Ages, and it is reasonable enough to find in it the original of the mortar cap, or trencher cap as it was sometimes called.

I have used the words equuleus and knocknobler. The former is an instrument of punishment mentioned by Cicero; the latter the Yorkshire name for

the apparitor or sexton who, armed with a long stick, knocked the nobs of drowsy boys in church on a Sunday morning. This practice was very common in churches and chapels when I was a boy, and jolly hard the raps were.

As to fishing, I myself when a boy, some three-and-twenty years ago, used to get small fish in the Irwell between the Crescent Weir and Broughton Bridge. But most probably they had been brought down in some of the floods.

HRTTIRE.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE DEVIL LOOKING OVER LINCOLN.

(Query No. 3,116, April 28.)

[3,120.] On my first visit to Lincoln, now nearly forty years ago, I had the company of an antiquarian in the person of Mr. John Percival Spencer. He pointed out to me various features of the Cathedral, amongst them the well-known carved representation of his Satanic Majesty on that side of the building which looks over the ancient city. I cannot now describe the special features of the carving or the exact place which it occupies on the Cathedral. I think it forms a portion of the so-called ornaments connected with one of the entrances to the building, but I have no doubt that anyone visiting the Cathedral could easily find it.

THOMAS BRITTAIN.

* * *

The city of Lincoln is built on the slope of a hill, on the top of which stands the Cathedral. Many of the ornaments round the outside of the minster are grotesque, and not always in strict keeping with the sanctity of the place. A projecting gargoyle on the gable of the bishop's porch represents an imp riding on a witch's back, which is said to be his infernal majesty scowling over the city.

EDWARD NIXON.

Hulton-street, Salford.

* * *

It has been stated that the proverb, "He looks like the devil over Lincoln," originated from the fact of that city possessing a great number of churches and religious houses, and being therefore supposed to be the object of the peculiar envy of the Evil One. In Ray's Proverbs it is thus explained:—

Some refer this to Lincoln Minster, over which, when first finished, the devil is supposed to have looked with a torve and terrific countenance as envying man's costly devotion, saith Dr. Fuller, but more probable it is that it took its rise from a small image of the devil standing on the top of Lincoln College in Oxford.

W. H.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY AND THE REBELS OF 1745.

(No. 3,109, April 21.)

[3,121.] The materials available for the use of the historian of Chorlton-cum-Hardy are very slight; hence he is compelled to depend rather upon probability and tradition than upon actual record.

The footpath which runs from High Lane to the Manchester Road is called by two names. The portion from High Lane to the curve is known as the "Scotshill" or "Scotchill," obtaining its name from a field adjoining, where a portion of the Scotch rebels encamped on the 30th of November, 1745, on their march from Manchester to Derby. It is said that the villagers had a fight with the rebels, and this is no doubt true, as they plundered every place they marched through for horses, arms, and ammunition. On leaving the village they marched by way of Barlow Moor Lane and Hardy Lane to Jackson's Boat, and crossed the river by the ford which formerly existed about 150 yards below the bridge as a means of communication between the two counties, other detachments crossing at various fords on the river and by improvised bridges. One of the highways from Cheshire to Manchester was across this ford and along Hardy Lane, Barlow Moor Lane, Trafford Lane (now Seymour Grove), and Chester Road.

The upper portion of the footpath is known as the "Winnick," from a field adjoining being called by that name; and from the centre there was formerly a narrow footpath leading to the New Buildings, but this was closed shortly after the completion of Wilbraham Road. "Jackson's Boat" is so called from a person of that name who farmed land in the district and kept the boat for the purpose of ferrying passengers across the river. The old bridge was erected in the year 1816, at a cost of £200, by Samuel Wilton. It was a wooden structure, with three supports sunk into the bed of the stream. The centre support was washed away by a heavy flood some years ago, and the one on the Chorlton side was swept away by the flood on December 29, 1880, which left it in a very unsafe condition for foot-passengers, so much so that Mr. John Brooks has erected an iron girder bridge in its place. This was opened on October 14, 1881, the wooden structure having been washed away in the early morning by the swollen stream.

The Bridge Inn, although on the Cheshire side of the Mersey, is in Lancashire, the river at that point

of its course having been diverted for about 125 yards above the bridge to 600 yards below, varying from 47 to 82 yards in width. The river has been diverted in two other places in the township, namely, at Park Eea, better known as "Daffodil Park," where a portion of land, although on the other side of the river, is in Lancashire, and a portion of Jabez Alderley's meadow on this side of the stream, adjoining Park Eea, is in the township of Northenden, Cheshire.

Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

T. L. E.

QUERIES.

[3,122.] DR. MAGINN ON DE QUINCEY AS A HUMBUG.—In the seventy-third of the Chetham Society's publications, the Manchester School Register, vol. ii., p. 224-5, in an article on Thomas De Quincey by Mr. James Crossley and the late John Sudlow, it is stated that in the *John Bull Magazine* of 1824 there is an article by the editor, Dr. Maginn, on "The Humbugs of the Age: No. 1—De Quincey." From Sunday, 17th December, 1820, No. 1, up to Sunday, 28th December, 1828, No. 420 (which I have seen), was published weekly, price sevenpence (the *John Bull* newspaper), folio, by Edward Shackell, Fleet-street, London; each yearly volume indexed. Was there a *John Bull Magazine* published at the same time this newspaper was published, as I fail to find any reference to an article on De Quincey in the index of the *John Bull* for 1824? If so, where could I see a copy of this magazine?

RICHARD HEMMING.

A NEW BIOGRAPHY OF LORD BYRON.—The book of the week is a new biography of Byron by John Cordy Jeaffreson. It is entitled *The Real Lord Byron: New Views of the Poet's Life*, and in it many episodes in Byron's career which have hitherto puzzled every student of the poet's works and life are completely explained and elucidated. The monstrous story put forward by Mrs. Beecher Stowe is demolished, without the power of revival, and the facts concerning his marriage with Miss Milbanke, the happy first seven months of the marriage, and the separation are told with a knowledge and fulness of detail which shows the author's complete mastery over his materials and irrefragable command of the position which he has assumed upon this much-debated question. The chapters on "Byron's Married Life," "The Separation," and "The Storm," for the first time put the public in full possession of the facts of Byron's married life and the reasons why the happiness of husband and wife was completely wrecked.

Saturday, May 12, 1883.

NOTES.

"MOBLED QUEEN."

[3,123.] This phrase in *Hamlet* is well illustrated by a remark of an old woman in Worcestershire. She asked that her moblements or her flannel wrappings for head and cheeks should be excused, as she had the neuralgia. Compare mob cap, one which covers the ears and fastens under the chin. HITTITE.

THE PHRASE "ON THE NAIL."

[3,124.] To pay down "on the nail" is to pay "exactly"—to the uttermost "drop." It is from the French "payer rubis sur l'ongle." A glass or flask of wine is drained, and to show that it is dry it is held up, tilted, and the last drop allowed to drip on the nail. See Littré under "rubis." HITTITE.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE. III. MYNSHULL-STREET AND AYTOUN-STREET.

[3,125.] Each of these streets owes its name to an owner of the Chorlton Hall Estate, mentioned in my previous note. Richard Mynshull, of the Inner Temple, London, Esquire, by his will, dated in 1722, devised all his lands and hereditaments (including the above estate) to his wife for her life, and afterwards to his sons Thomas and George successively, in tail male. This son Thomas, who had taken up his residence at Chorlton Hall, barred, in 1742, the estates tail created by his father; and, by his will, dated in 1744, disposed of the estate absolutely to his only son Thomas. The last-mentioned testator had also an only daughter, Elizabeth, who married Mr. James Rivington, the well-known London bookseller. This younger Thomas (whose full name was, it appears, Thomas Samuel Mynshull) by his will, dated in 1754, gave a first life interest in the estate to his mother, Mrs. Barbara Mynshull, and the following life interest to his sister, Mrs. Rivington, and the reversion (in default of issue of Mrs. Rivington and of other persons contingently benefited) to his mother absolutely. In 1769 Widow Mynshull became absolute owner of Chorlton Hall; and in the same year intermarried with the notorious Roger Aytoun, much her junior, who in the following year secured, by means of a deed and of the (now obsolete) proceeding known as a "fine," the sole ownership of the "capital messuage called Chorlton Hall, six cottages, two barns, six stables, one coachhouse, one dovehouse, seven gardens, twenty-seven acres of [arable] land, twenty-seven acres of meadow, and twenty-seven acres of pasture,

common of pasture for all manner of cattle, and common of turbary [i.e. turf-cutting] with the appurtenances in Chorlton Roe and Ardwick; and also of one other capital messuage called Garratt Hall, four other messuages, four other cottages, three dye-houses, two other barns, six other stables, four other gardens, four warehouses, 1,600 square yards of building land, twenty acres of other [arable] land, thirty acres of other meadow, and twenty acres of other pasture in Manchester, and of other lands and rents." Only a few months later, "Spanking Roger" raises £5,000 on a mortgage of the estate to Mr. Thomas Tipping, a Manchester merchant. We find Roger in 1779 living at Inchdornie, in the county of Fife, at a time when he was a captain in the 72nd Regiment of Foot, or Royal Manchester Volunteers, and very deeply indebted to various creditors, secured and unsecured. Being "called upon to go immediately on his Majesty's service to Gibraltar, where his said Regiment was then in garrison," and being personally "thereby prevented from selling" his property for the purpose of paying his debts, he, in the last-mentioned year, "in order to remove the inconvenience to arise by his absence from England as much as possible," had requested three gentlemen to act in the disposal of his property for the benefit of his creditors, and executes a deed to carry out that apparently worthy object. These trustees exercised their powers by selling off sundry parts of the estate, either absolutely or on chief rent, until the restless squire (with the restless arm) returned to his Manchester home, and resumed personal management of his property there. I have in a prior note referred to his disposal of the estate in the year 1792.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL CAP.

(No. 3,119, May 5.)

[3,126.] About forty-eight or fifty years since the fiat went forth that the boys of the Manchester Grammar School must adopt the college-cap. All were to appear in it on a given day on pain of expulsion. Deep were the grumblings of parents at the unnecessary mulct, the cost of the new cap being greater than the general run of caps of the period. But there was no appeal, and Mr. Mountcastle, of Market-street, who was, I believe, authorized to provide the new head-gear, must have made a nice thing

of it. The scholars did not like the innovation; it was hard and inflexible, was not to be crushed up and stuffed into a pocket, was not complying for a game of cob-nuts, was not so adaptable for school-boy uses and abuses, and, moreover, made them objects of derision to street-lads of all grades not so distinguished. The epithet "mortar-board" was hurled after the wearers, a term suggested by the shape of the cap, the square flat top of which closely resembled in size and shape the mortar-board carried by a bricklayer or mason whilst at work, and held in position by a handle underneath. My little brother came home in a terrible way about it, took the cap off and dashed it down in a rage, simply because the lads had called after him that he had "got a mortar-board on his head," with allusions which left no uncertainty of their meaning—"was his father a bricklayer?" and so forth. So the origin is not mediæval as HERRIE supposes. The "mortier" worn by the Knights Templars was a sort of brimless stove-pipe, with scale-armour lappets fastening under the chin to protect the ears—supposed to resemble an apothecary's mortar, the old shape.

ISABELLA BANKS.

THE CROMWELLIAN SETTLEMENT OF IRELAND.

(Note No. 3,111, April 28.)

[3,127.] Although at first sight it would seem as if your correspondent "X" propounded his question on this topic merely for the purpose of answering it to his own satisfaction, still I will take it for granted that he is sincerely desirous of possessing as much information as possible on the subject. *The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland*, by Mr. John P. Prendergast (London, Longmans, 1865) is one of the most exhaustive works that has ever been written with regard to this much-debated period of Irish history. It contains copious extracts from the State papers in the Birmingham Tower, Dublin Castle, complete lists of the adventurers and soldier settlers, with allotment maps, and all such particulars as are needful to a thorough understanding of the history of the times.

I cannot help fancying that, after a careful and impartial perusal of Mr. Prendergast's work, "X." will be inclined to admit that Mr. M'Carthy's summary of the effects of the Settlement is far nearer the truth than that of Carlyle. In fact, the cynical old Sage of Chelsea (the latest of our national idols whose feet have proved to be of clay) was, by nature, par-

ticularly ill-fitted to form an unbiassed judgment on such a matter. His Cromwellian sympathies were far too strong, and his anti-Irish feelings much too pronounced to admit of his doing so. Besides, your correspondent must bear in mind that Carlyle speaks of the scheme as it existed in theory. The records of the time, as given by Mr. Prendergast, tell us the plain, unvarnished truth about the brutal manner in which the Act was put into practice. As regards the intentions of the framers of the Act of Settlement, there can be hardly any reasonable doubt in the mind of any unprejudiced historical student. The very key-note of the Act is "Woe to the Conquered," and its sole aim and end the utter extermination of the Irish, as a nation, in three-fourths of the island, and the reduction of the population of the remaining fourth to a condition of the most abject slavery. When her stern task-masters had given the fullest effect in their power to this merciless Act "peace reigned in Ireland," for the land had become a wilderness, where the famished inhabitants fed on weeds and carrion, and the wolf, the priest, and the Tory (viz., the mere Irish) were hunted through the desolate bogs by the new lords of the soil. So much for the way in which the Act was administered. The dominant race did all in their power to annihilate the Irish nation. That they did not quite succeed was certainly no fault of theirs, for their heart was thoroughly in the work.

Your correspondent regrets that we Irish have such tenacious memories for what we deem national wrongs. Well, let him put himself in our place and just try to imagine what the case would be if such merciless punishment had been dealt out to the defeated partizans of the House of Stuart in England. Besides, Ireland has suffered much since then in the shape of further confiscations and penal laws. Centuries are but as years in the memories of nations, and considering that all the horrors attending the Lord Protector's scheme for the settlement of Ireland occurred only some two hundred years ago, I think that our "poor distracted country" may plead a reasonable excuse for her vivid memory of the "curse of Cromwell."

L. D. A.

THE MAYOR OF ALTRINCHAM.

(Query No. 3,115, April 28.)

[3,128.] ENQUIRER will find a list of the Mayors of Altrincham in Mr. Ingham's *History of Altrincham and Bowdon*, 1879. The first name in the list is that

of Edward Massey, appointed in 1452, and there have been four hundred and thirty nominations to the office since. The charter was granted by the lord of the manor about the year 1290, and probably a mayor was appointed then and subsequently, but no names of mayors between 1290 and 1452 are given. The appointment is made by the lord of the manor. There is no corporation and no aldermen or councillors. In fact, the mayor is a purely manorial office. The post appears to be held in some years by persons of lowly degree, for Sir Walter Scott, in the *Heart of Midlothian*, quotes a Cheshire saying, "I was like the Mayor of Altrincham, who lies in bed whilst his breeches are mending;" and there is an old rhyme:—

The Mayor of Altrincham and the Mayor of Over,
The one is a thatcher, the other a dauber.

On the other hand, some prominent and wealthy residents have served in the office' and in 1758 the Honourable Booth Grey, a son of the Earl of Warrington, the then lord of the manor, was the mayor. A local board was established for the township in 1851, but the manorial mayor is still extant. What his precise duties are, I cannot say. Perhaps one of the numerous ex-mayors will give information on this point. I may add that there are, or were, two mayors of Ashton-under-Lyne, one the head of the municipal corporation of the borough, the other appointed by the lord of the manor, namely, the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, who was also lord of the manor of Altrincham. I believe Altrincham is included in Sir Charles Dilke's bill dealing with unreformed corporations, which is now passing through the House of Commons, but in what way it is proposed to deal with this ancient officer I do not know. ION.

IRELAND: ITS TAXES AND COST.

(Query No. 3,097, April 14.)

[3,129.] An inquirer asked what is the revenue derived by the imperial exchequer from Ireland, and how much its government costs the nation? No answer having yet appeared, perhaps an extract from a letter addressed by Mr. Mitchell Henry, M.P., on April 30th, to the *Times*, may throw a light on the subject. Premising that he believes the evils of Ireland are social and not political, and that the material prosperity of that country has been sacrificed to the financial needs of England, Mr. Henry says:—

Since the great famine of 1847-48 the imperial taxes of Ireland have been more than doubled. Up to that time Ireland contributed four millions annually to this country. The amount may have been too small, but

the inequality was more than redressed in the year 1853, when, by the imposition of the income-tax and the equalization of the spirit duties, the Irish taxes were raised to eight millions and a half. Of this sum a return obtained by Mr. M'Laren in the years 1872-73 shows that not one-fourth was expended in Ireland itself. The Treasury has not supplied any later return, but making ample provision for all increases of expenditure, and adding a liberal amount for Ireland's share of the expenses of ministerial offices, diplomatic services, interest and management of debt, pensions, and so on, it is unquestionable that of the whole sum annually raised by imperial authority in Ireland, between two and three millions is nothing more nor less than a tribute exacted by the richer and more powerful country from the poorer and weaker. Add to this weight of imperial taxation the pressure of local taxes and the absentee rents paid to landlords who expend nothing in the country, and it will be found that very nearly one-fourth of everything that is raised by agriculture or made by manufactures in Ireland in the course of each twelve months goes in taxation. No country in the world has ever prospered under such conditions, and until this is seen and understood there can be no hope of decent living among the people or of social improvement.

As the department of Notes and Queries is not the place for the discussion of current political questions, I will only add an expression of regret that the English people are so imperfectly acquainted with the social, industrial, and financial condition of Ireland—an ignorance which the attitude of the Parnellite Home-Rulers rather tends to intensify than to dispel.

EOTHEN.

CROMWELL IN LANCASHIRE AND BURY CASTLE.

TALBOT-STREET, MOSS SIDE.

In the first part of the interesting "Chapter of Lancashire Family History" in your issue of April 28, the writer, Miss Mary Roberts, says:—"After the battle of Ribblesdale, or Walton-le-Dale, in 1648, Cromwell with his forces occupied the country from Preston to Chorley, he himself sleeping at Astley Hall, next day passing on southwards to Wigan with the bulk of his forces, a portion being despatched across the moors to Bury for the attack and demolition of the Castle, once the stronghold of Adam de Burgh."

In my recently published work on *Some Ancient Battle-Fields in Lancashire*, chapter three, I have carefully analyzed the evidence adduced respecting the demolition of Bury Castle, and conclusively demon-

strated that neither the army of Cromwell or that of any other Parliamentary leader ever fired a shot at it, either from the "Castle Steads," or elsewhere. I am supported in this view by Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, who, in the appendix to his work on *Roman Lancashire*, recently issued, says:—"Mr. C. Hardwick, in his recently-published *Ancient Battle-Fields in Lancashire*, pp. 154-8, completely refutes the statement that any siege of Bury Castle took place in 1644" [the statement of Baines, for which he cites no authority, is 1644], "or that Castle Stead was an entrenchment, raised by Cromwell's army. This increases the probability that the earth-work was Roman."

The fact is, we have certain evidence that the Castle needed no demolition in either 1664 or 1668, it having been reduced to a ruin long previously (most probably during the Wars of the Roses), and hence the after transference of some legendary story respecting it to the time of the Stuarts. Leland, the "King's antiquary," in the reign of Henry the Eighth, on visiting the place, says:—"Byri-on-Irwell, 4 or 5 miles from Mancheste, but a poore market. There is a Ruine of a Castel by the paroch church, in the Towne." In October, 1865, I examined carefully the excavations of the foundations of De Bury's stronghold, when exposed by some sewerage operations undertaken by the local commissioners, which testified that the castle had never been restored, as the absence of all record thereof previously attested.

At page 217 of the work previously referred to I say "I have heard of several localities in Lancashire" [Astley Hall included], "and some neighbouring counties, where tradition records that Oliver Cromwell once visited the district, and slept in some specified house or mansion, although there exists not the slightest reliable evidence that Oliver was ever in the neighbourhood. This in some instances, I fancy, may be accounted for by the fact that Cromwell's name has become a typical or generic one, and has done duty for nearly a couple of centuries, with the public generally, for every commander, either generals or subordinate officers, belonging to the Parliamentary armies."

Cromwell had nothing to do with the fighting in Lancashire in 1663-4, the chief commanders being General Fairfax, with his headquarters at Manchester, and General Sir John Seaton. The latter besieged Preston, and took it by storm after a most gallant defence. In 1643 Cromwell's own despatches to the

Speaker of the House of Commons distinctly describe his movements during the short but decisive campaign. On August 16 he rested at Stoneyhurst, and began the battle early on the following morning. His letter describing its result is dated "Preston, 17th August, 1648." His lengthy despatch giving all the details is dated "Warrington, 20th August, 1648." The day after the Preston battle he pursued the enemy to Wigan. He says:—"We lay that night in the field close by the enemy; being very dirty and weary, and having marched twelve miles of such ground as I never rode in all my life, the day being very wet. . . . The next morning the enemy marched towards Warrington, and we at the heels of them." He then describes the stand made by the enemy near Winwick, "they maintaining the pass with great resolution for many hours." He afterwards pursued them to Warrington, and by Nantwich southwards.

We have no allusion whatever to Bury or its castle; nor indeed is Chorley mentioned by name. But a portion of the enemy must have retreated in that direction, as Colonel Thornhaugh, who commanded the advance, was, as Captain Hodgson in his diary says, "run through with a lancier in Chorley, he wanting his arms (armour)." Cromwell himself, with the main body of his army, appears to have followed that portion of the enemy which retreated by the more direct route to Wigan.

There was more ground for the tradition that Cromwell battered Clitheroe Castle into ruin, for he did pass it on his way to Stoneyhurst on the evening preceding the engagement, but, as I have said in my recent work, "Cromwell was not the man to amuse himself by bombarding his *friends* on the eve of a great and, as it proved, a decisive battle." This castle was, at the conclusion of the war, dismantled by an "order of a Council of State."

The names of Oliver Cromwell and Thomas Cromwell of the preceding century seem to have become fused in one mythical warrior, to whom the ruin of all castles, abbeys, and other ancient buildings is attributed by the transmitters of legendary lore all all over the kingdom. CHARLES HARDWICK.

BESSES O'TH' BARN, April 30.

In the very interesting chapter in your last week's paper (April 28) of the History of the Lancashire Family of Standish of Duxbury and Standish Halls, by Miss Mary Roberts, she states that in 1648, after the battle of Ribblesdale, near Preston, betwixt the Parliamentary

and Royalist forces, the victorious General Cromwell sent a detachment of his forces over the moors to take and demolish the Castle of Bury. If such a conflict really took place there must be a record of the fact, of which your fair correspondent will give us a reference at her pleasure, as the desired information, if forthcoming, may remove some doubt as to the existence, also not a little misapprehension as to the time of its demolition. It may be noted in support of the former existence of a castle at Bury, that when, a few years ago, some old property was taken down by the town's authorities, the workmen during the levelling and sewerage behind the same came in contact with extensive stone foundations of walls and buttresses of great strength. The discovery was properly followed by further research at the expense of the town, which resulted in the complete baring of the walls of what must have been a large edifice—a castle or a hall. The contiguity of Castle Field supports the above theory to some extent, though, as the site was left open to view for some time, and fully explored by our local antiquarians and others, Mr. John Harland amongst them, the result disclosed nothing definite as to the date and pre-existence of the structure as being the true site of the castle or its feudal possessors at the time of demolition. Tradition says that the Manors of Bury and Pilkington were given to the Earl of Derby in the reign of Henry the Seventh, for his loyalty to the Tudor or Lancastrian dynasty. If any of your contributors on historical questions can give us the true solution or add any facts relating to the above they will much oblige.

J. JACKSON.

MEMORIALS OF RALEIGH AND CAXTON.—A magnificent memorial window was last year presented to St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, by American citizens, in honour of Sir Walter Raleigh, whose headless body was carried to the church from the scaffold. The following four lines were written as an inscription for the window by Mr. J. Russell Lowell, the American Minister:—

The New World's sons from England's breast
we drew

Such milk as bids remember whence we came,
Proud of her past wherefrom our future grew,

This window we inscribe with Raleigh's fame.

A fine window was presented to the church about the same time, mainly by the publishers and printers of London, in honour of Caxton, who also lies buried there. For this window the following four lines have been written as an inscription by Mr. Tennyson. They are founded on Caxton's motto "*Fiat lux*," which is emblazoned on the window:—

Thy prayer was "Light—more Light—while
Time shall last!"

Thou sawest a glory growing on the night,
But not the shadows which that light would cast,
Till shadows vanish in the Light of Light.

Saturday, May 19, 1883.

NOTES.

MILTON'S CONCEPTION OF THE CHARACTER OF SATAN.

[3,130.] In these days, when the land is filled with works of fiction in prose and verse containing the so-called creations of thousands of minds, it is refreshing to turn now and then from such miniatures to the large canvas of a Milton. His character of Satan is a real creation, such as I venture to say has never been equalled. It is true that Satan is mentioned in Holy Writ, but ever as an influence only; and in the world in all ages the existence of evil in an abstract form has been acknowledged, but it was left for Milton to chrystallize those various ideas into the huge personality we find in *Paradise Lost*. The impression of this great achievement may be seen in the religious world; for in many pulpits the ideas of Milton are unconsciously given forth as those of Holy Writ. I do not propose to disentangle the threads that have come to be so intertwined, nor indeed would this be the place to do so, but to consider this achievement in our literature as if, for example, the character were Macbeth instead of Satan.

In the first place we are shown a kingdom where there are different degrees of power, a supreme head, chieftains, and lower orders. Presumably at one time complete happiness reigned in that kingdom; evil was unknown. At length the greatest of the chieftains, filled with pride, dares to defy the Omnipotent to arms. Where did the evil influence come from which tempted Satan himself to rebel? That is the mystery of mysteries. However, he is described as puffed up with pride and rebelling against his Head. He has a numerous following. Fierce and long the battle rages—he is, of necessity defeated, and is punished both mentally and physically: “the thought both of lost happiness and lasting pain torments him.” This then is the situation. We have a personage of almost the highest qualities of mind and body, thrust out from the greatest possible happiness to the greatest possible misery by his own fault, and it is for us to notice the effect this sudden change has on him. It is here that Milton's creative power has its widest

scope—wide enough indeed to tax the energies of any man.

Satan finds himself hopelessly defeated: he stands still, breathless after the struggle, scarcely daring to calculate the results of his defeat. He is afflicted and dismayed at the ruin he witnesses, but yet his “obdurate pride” and “steadfast hate” are not dead. The terrible contrast almost breaks his heart. “Oh how unlike the place from which he fell.” The silence in which he finds himself becomes horrible to him when seeing one of his followers, another great chieftain, near at hand, he puts on a bold front and attempts to address him with dauntless words, but miserably fails in the attempt. His companion is so changed that he scarcely knows him, and the thought of this overpowers the speaker. “If thou beest he!” he cries; and then follows a wail—“But oh, how fallen!” Once they were comrades in glorious enterprise; now misery joins them in equal ruin. But Satan will not long condole in this fashion. Bracing himself up with the energy of despair, he exclaims:

What though the field be lost,
All is not lost; the unconquerable will
And study of revenge, immortal hate
And courage never to submit or yield,
And what is else not to be overcome,
That glory never shall his wrath or might
Extort from me.

To him there was a shame more shameful than his terrible downfall, and that was to bow and sue for grace to him whom he had in his own opinion almost conquered. He is determined to carry on the war to the bitter end, eternal war, by force or guile it matters not, against him whom he fancies as sitting with excess of joy tyrannising the inhabitants of heaven. His companion in his hopelessness counsels submission lest worse might befall them, but Satan will not hear of it; to submit would show weakness, and to be weak is miserable. He spies a dreary plain in the distance, and because it is in the distance it seems to promise rest. There rest, he says, but as he says so doubts if any rest can harbour there. However, there he will assemble his shattered army, and see how he can overcome their dire calamity, what stimulus they may gain from hope, and, if hope must be put aside, what resolution from despair.

He reaches the plain where he had hoped to find rest, but it is horrible beyond expression. Such resting found the soles of unblest feet! The contrast between his past and his present again comes vividly

before him, and his boasting can sustain his spirits no longer, for he cries out—

Is this the region, this the soil, the clime—this the seat
That we must change for Heaven? This mournful
gloom

For that celestial light?

Farewell, happy fields,
Where joy for ever dwells! Hail, horrors! hail,
Infernal world! and thou profoundest hell,
Receive thy new possessor!

This at least is his: that is one consolation. He has also another possession, his mind: that cannot be changed by place or time. He tries to comfort himself with a fallacy. The mind is its own place, and can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven. What does it matter, then? He is himself, almost as great as he who conquered him, the only difference in his estimation being that his conqueror had command of the thunder; there was no superiority in the mind of his conqueror over his own, only a mere physical difference between them in the weapons of war. He now, at any rate, has got a kingdom of his own, and it is such an uninviting one that he says with grim irony "the Almighty hath not built here for his envy will not drive us hence." Here Satan might reign, and that was what he wanted. "To reign is worth ambition, though in hell. Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven."

But where are his subjects? Lying astounded and amazed at their defeat, desponding with finding themselves fallen so low and so utterly. What shall he do to arouse them from their despondency and amazement? It is at this critical moment that the diplomatic skill of the great commander is shown. See how he addresses them, not as a defeated mass of rebels, but—"Princes, Potentates, Warriors!" Then he rallies them in half satirical tones. "Have ye chosen this place after the toil of battle to repose your wearied virtue? In this abject posture have ye sworn to adore the conqueror, till anon his swift pursuers from heaven-gates discern the advantage, and descend upon you before you can resist. 'Awake' he cries, 'arise! or be for ever fallen.'" Stirred up thus by appeals to their valour, and to their selfishness, they spring from their lethargy to place themselves once more at the command of their great leader. Myriads upon myriads circle him round, still, however, with downcast looks, but yet with somewhat of joy at not finding their leader in despair like themselves. Calling his pride to his rescue, with much trouble he controls his emotions,

and with bold words raises their fainting courage, and dispels their fears, and then commands his mighty standard to be upreared, amid the warlike sounds of trumpets and clarions. At the sight of the glittering banner unfurled, and their leader looking so majestic, the universal host sent up a shout that tore hell's concave. No wonder the leader's heart distends with pride, and that as he looks upon these countless hosts of warriors that he glories for the moment in his strength.

But he sees farther than his shouting legions: "care sits on his faded cheek." He cannot view millions of spirits for his fault deprived of heaven, condemned to have for ever now their lot in pain, without feeling remorse. The thought of the terrible penalty that they have to pay for his sake overpowers him, as they half enclose him round and mutely stand attentive to hear his words. He tries to speak but in vain. Scorning his own weakness once more he attempts to address his waiting followers, but again in vain. Again he tries, but instead of words, "tears such as angels weep, and words interwove with sighs, find out their way." This makes his task of speaking with a purpose all the more difficult, for now his followers must see that his former pretence of not feeling his defeat was assumed. He can now only assert that, "the strife was not inglorious, though the event was dire, and the dire change hateful to utter." Henceforth they will know the might of him who defeated them, and will also know their own. But that will not destroy what he describes as their better part, namely, to strive to execute by "fraud or guile what they could not do by force, so that the Almighty may learn that "who overcomes by force, hath overcome but half his foe." Peace must never be maintained. War is the word, open or understood. A council is called to deliberate how best the war can be carried on, and Satan is seated on a throne of royal state, and once more addresses the assembled multitudes. Once again they are "Powers and Dominions, Deities of Heaven," for if that glorious land is not at present theirs, he does not despair of recovering it. He goes on with subtle reasoning to show them that in their present situation they have a greater advantage to union and firm faith, and firm accord, than they ever had in heaven, and therefore that somehow they must recover their just inheritance of old.

The debate, how best to carry on the war, comes to

an end, and Satan, in order to place his claim to leadership above dispute, gives an undoubted proof of his personal courage by undertaking the terrible journey to the earth. "Long is the way and dark, that out of hell leads up to light." It is evident by this time that all trace of what he would consider such weaknesses as tears and remorse have been left far behind, and that in pride, guile, and fixity of purpose Satan is himself again. Here Milton's original conception of the character ends. Afterwards he strikes the Bible narrative and runs nearly on the same lines.

JOSEPH M'KIM.

Wilmslow.

MANCHESTER STREET-LORE: IV. PARKER-STREET,

[3,131.] The Mosleys, formerly Lords of the Manor, have given names to a considerable number of Manchester streets, of most of which number I have notes ready for publication. Parker-street is one of these. In the year 1783 this street was formed out of land belonging to the then Lord of the Manor, Sir John Parker Mosley, Baronet, and his heir-apparent, Oswald Mosley, Esquire (then just out of his minority). The street was not named for some time after its formation, and was used only as a convenient passage between Garrett Lane (corresponding, in a measure, to the present Portland-street) and Bath-street—so called on account of the public baths erected on part of the Infirmary lands fronting the latter street—and thence to the river Tib—a name familiarized to the present generation by its occurrence in "Tib Lane" and "Tib-street." In a deed, dated in October 1783, being the conveyance to the Infirmary Trustees of part of the Infirmary lands, (viz., the back portion, purchased from Sir Ashton Lever, Knight—of whom I will more particularly deal when treating of Lever-street—and John Peploe Birch), Sir John Parker Mosley and his heir concur to give to the trustees a right of way through Bath-street and the then unnamed Parker-street. It may be interesting to here record the names of the gentlemen who, as trustees of the Infirmary, first had the benefit of that right of passage specially granted; Josiah Birch, George Lloyd, and James Massey, Esquires; James Walker, "Doctor of Physic"; John Caryl Worsley, John Markland, and George Johnson, Esquires; Peter Mainwaring and Samuel Kay, "Doctors in Physic"; and Richard Edward Hall and Charles White, surgeons.

The name, "Parker," was brought into the Mosley

family by the marriage of Nicholas Mosley, Esquire (father of the baronet before mentioned), with Elizabeth, daughter of William Parker, Esquire, of Derby, cousin to Sir Thomas Parker, first Earl of Macclesfield, Viscount and Baron Parker, and Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain.

24, Brown-street.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

THE FIRST MENTION OF TOBACCO AND ITS FIRST NAME.

[3,132.] The first mention of potatoes, pine apples, and tobacco with which I have met is in John Sparke's narrative of *The Voyage made by Mr. John Hawkins, afterwards Kn^t* (Hawkins's second voyage). The passage relative to tobacco is as follows:—

The Floridians when they travel have a kind of herb dried, who, with a cane and an earthen cup in the end, with fire and the dried herbs put together, do suck through the cane the smoke thereof, which smoke satisfieth their hunger, and therewith they live four or five days without meat or drink, and this all the Frenchmen useth for this purpose.

The date is A.D. 1564. Sir Humphrey Gilbert's expedition, in which Raleigh, his half-brother, started as Vice-Admiral, and in command of the barque Raleigh—200 tons—which he had himself set forth, sailed in 1583, or about twenty years after.

Let me now give a translation of a few Latin verses by the celebrated George Buchanan, which may interest users of the "weed." I was fortunate enough to pick up for a shilling the first (1687) collected edition of his Latin poems—or what claims to be the first—a few weeks ago, and wonderfully interesting reading they are, and, I should say, invaluable to the historian of the time (1530-1580 about) at which he wrote. Here is what he says:—

Concerning Nicotiana, called by the forged name *Medicæa*, Learned Nicotius returning from the Western coasts brought back tobacco (*Nicotiana*), a herb healthful for all depressions, in his desire to benefit his country; but Catharine Medicis, the purge and pestilence of her people, the Medea of her age, burning with ambition, "adulterates" the plant of Nicotius with the name of *Medicæa*. And as she before stripped citizens of their goods she wishes to deprive Nicotius of the honour of the herb. But ye who seek aid for your sick limbs keep off your hands from the plant of ill-omened name, close your mouth and bar your ears from [it as from] a leprous plague. For nectar will prove virus, panacea poison, if it shall be called "*Medicæa*."

I suppose "barring the ears" refers to the habit the aboriginal Americans had of expelling the smoke by the ears as well as the nose and mouth, a habit imitated by the first European smokers. HITTITE.

EARLY NEWSPAPERS IN LANCASHIRE.

[3,133.] After Norwich, York, Leeds, and Gloucester, Manchester claims precedence in point of time in the issuing or establishing a newspaper, or some periodical answering that purpose. So early as 1580, in the reign of Elizabeth, Manchester had attained no little celebrity and attention from Government by the productions of an itinerant printing press under the direction of one Penry, a "Brownist," who gave mortal offence in high quarters by a succession of attacks upon the conduct of the Queen and her favourite Leicester. Under the name of Martin Marprelate, Penry, among other satirical papers, published a most obnoxious pamphlet, entitled *Hæc ye ony mair wark for the Cooper?*, which induced the Privy Council to issue special orders for his apprehension. After eluding pursuit for a considerable time, often by moving to apparently unlikely places, Penry was at length traced to Newton Lane, Manchester; seized, tried, condemned, and executed.

This summary proceeding seems to have effectually checked the spirit of newsmongering in Manchester for at least a century and a half; the next adventure being attempted by Richard Whitworth, in 1730, printed in the town on an established site, and named the *Manchester Gazette*. This was afterwards changed to the *Manchester Magazine*, under which title the number for the 24th of December, 1745, gave a circumstantial and our most reliable account of the movements of Prince Charles's army; soon after which the publication ceased. The paper, with the stamp then constituting it a legal issue, sold for three halfpence.

In the same year, 1745, a newspaper was established in Preston, entitled the *British Courant, or Preston Journal*. It was subsequently discontinued, and no attempt of the same nature was made until Mr. Thomas Walker began the *Preston Review* in 1793; which also soon ceased to exist. The oldest Liverpool newspaper is *Bullings's Liverpool Advertiser*, originally started in 1756 by Robert Williamson; and nine years afterwards Mr. John Gore issued the first of *Gore's Liverpool Advertiser*. It is said that a large proportion of the English newspapers were formerly conducted by Scotchmen.

It may be noted that during the period of the Civil War it is believed that the party in Manchester favouring the Parliament issued a little news-sheet, named the *Spye*, and that this was printed and published from some place in Newton Lane. Could this be the same establishment that sixty years earlier had

been brought to notice as the abiding-place of Penry, the "Brownist," with his pseudonym of "Martin Marprelate?" The "press" used for each of these publications is mentioned as being "on wheels" for convenience, most likely, of movement from place to place.

XIPHIAS (Note 2,950) says Lord Strange "seized and broke to pieces the whole concern in Newton Lane;" but I think it scarcely possible that the Royalist commander penetrated so far into the town, the advance being from the Salford side and the repulse occurring at the bridge; the destruction of the obnoxious machine was perhaps accomplished by zealous partizans of the Crown residing in Manchester. Cateaton-street, the foot of Deansgate, its height of houses with chambers projecting beyond the ground-line—standing until 1824—Smithy Door, and the elevated plateau of the churchyard, were good positions, capable of being well defended, as they were. The steep banks on the town side also gave advantage; and we do not know that the Royalists attempted to cross the river by ford in any more accessible part.

MARY ROBERTS.

Bristol.

 QUERIES.

[3,134.] THE TOP OF THE STREET.—What denotes the top of any road or street in Manchester—the numbers on the houses, the flow of the nearest river, or what?
C. F. G.

[3,135.] SHAKSPERIANA.—In *Midsummer Night's Dream*, act i., scene 1, line 185, are these words:—

When wheat is green, when hawthorn buds appear,
Sickness is catching.

What is the meaning?

X. Y. Z.

[3,136.] AUTHORSHIP OF SONGS.—Who wrote the words of the song or duet, "All's Well," beginning:—

Deserted by the waning moon;

and of "Woodman, spare that tree?" The latter, I have heard, is by an American writer.
B. B.

[3,137.] THE SCOTS' MARCH.—It the seventeenth century various bodies of mercenary Scotch troops fought in the continental armies—notably the famous Scotch Brigade of 6,000 men, under the Marquis of Hamilton, which joined Gustavus Adolphus. In the accounts of the wars of that period mention is often made of "the Scots' March," evidently a national martial air, beaten on the drums to inspire and inflame the soldiers at the supreme moment of attack. What could "the Scots' March" be? The march of the

present Royal Scots' Regiment is "Dumbarton's Drums." Could that be the air? Or perhaps it was the air which Burns set to the words "Scots wha hae." The Royal Scots' Regiment of the present day was formed from the remnant of the brigade which returned from the Continent at the end of the Thirty Years' War.

J. D.

MR. GLADSTONE'S QUOTATION FROM LUCRETIVS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—After so many English versions, all, however, in rhyme or in metrical form, of the remarkable lines quoted by Mr. Gladstone from Lucretius's poem on *The Nature of Things*, perhaps you may find room for a last word—this time in prose—about the real and unforced meaning of the much-vexed passage. One of your correspondents made mention of Mr. Munro's "splendid" edition of the poem, reserving his praise, however, for the Latin text and English notes, and omitting to take cognizance of the faithful and scholarly prose translation appended to the work. Creech, Busby, Good, and all other translators whether in rhyme or blank verse, have necessarily sacrificed somewhat of literalness to the exigencies of poetical form, and their "variations" are so essential that a plain prose reading of the passage can scarcely help to harmonize them. Be this as it may, Mr. Munro renders the passage as follows:—"For the nature of gods must ever, in itself, of necessity, enjoy immortality together with supreme peace—far removed and withdrawn from our concerns; since, exempt from every pain, exempt from all dangers, strong in its own resources, nor wanting aught of us, it is neither gained by favours nor moved by anger."

BEDFORDIENSIS.

CROMWELL IN LANCASHIRE.

BRISTOL, May 16.

In replying to the gentlemen who noticed my article on the Standishes, I trust I may offer a little for consideration, if not satisfaction. My researches may perhaps be characterized as, not so much historical, as—if I may use the phrase—domestic-antiquarian; and these have led me to take interest in many details, circumstances, and old memories now fast disappearing before the march of modern thought and action. I have credited much I have heard not connected with book-learning; for it is the latest breath of the Past, and is even now disappearing for ever.

From Lady Hoghton, of Astley Hall—Susan Brooke, born about 1765, relict of Sir Henry Philip Hoghton—I had the personal assurance that Oliver Cromwell

had accepted or claimed the hospitality of the house, and remained one night, Lady Hoghton's ancestors having uninterrupted succession of the hall during and since that time. Cromwell dated a letter from Preston, 17th August, 1648, and in a later despatch says:—"We lay that night (of the day following the battle) in the field close by the enemy; being very dirty and weary, and having marched twelve miles of such ground as I never rode in all my life, the day being very wet." Two hundred years later than the time of the staunch and active general, the distance between Chorley and Preston, on a well-made modern highway, extended to full nine miles; so perhaps Oliver, reaching Chorley with a large body of men and cumbrous war material, in pursuit of disorganized and retreating forces, each widely extended party obliged to traverse the open country of irregular and rain-soaked land, may be excused for not under-rating the space over which he travelled; the old unwritten tradition of his soldiers resting for a night in Chorley and its neighbourhood, he himself at Astley, therefore may be true after all; for it is little likely that, under the circumstances, the march extended beyond that distance on the same day; also as, a century later, the road between Chorley and Wigan, nine miles, on the route to Warrington, was spoken of as "the most detestable passage in the kingdom." The march from Preston to Warrington occupied three days; the distance about thirty miles.

As to a contest taking place in Bury, and an attack on the Castle, having from childhood heard such stated as a fact, I may have given it undue credence, and can but support my opinion as follows. In the year 1796, a freehold property consisting of farmhouse, garden, fields, and orchard, belonging to my great-grandfather, Radcliffe Wrigley, extending along the ground of the Castle Hill, Bury, and from the Castle Croft below to a frontage on the Wylde, was sold to the Earl of Derby, through his steward, Mr. Johnson. Upon a portion of this land the house built by Mr. Edmund Grundy, at the head of the Wylde, now stands. On this estate, whilst held by the Wrigleys, were frequently found, whilst ploughing, cannon balls of no inconsiderable size; one being kept in use by my great-grandmother, Mrs. Wrigley, as a means of grinding mustard for family use, by rolling the ball in a large and strong wooden bowl, which, when not employed, kept its unvarying place at one end of the kitchen dresser. Besides these

silent but sure tokens of a former scene of warfare, on opening the ground for a well in the yard, the diggers broke into a subterranean passageway, its direction extending from the reputed site of the ancient Castle, to the ground upon which the church is built. On exploration the vault was found blocked by fallen masonry each way, but the search was rewarded by the discovery of the body-piece belonging to a suit of armour, and described as closely resembling a pair of iron or steel stays.

In 1156 the Lord of Bury, Adam de Burgh, or de Burga, was living in his castle, but the circumstance of finding cannon balls would place its attack or demolition at a later period. I do not know how long this estate was in possession of the Wrigleys, but that it must have been some time is evident from the fact that during the latter half of the last century an apple tree of unusual size and excellent fruit, which had been raised from seed by one of Radcliffe Wrigley's forefathers, was growing in the garden. There was also a birch tree, much valued by the matrons of the family, it being tapped annually to produce the accustomed store of birch wine. Closely embedded beneath the roots of these and other trees the iron balls were also found.

The stretch of land from the Printworks to beyond School Brow, and across to Chamber Hall, was well known as the Castle Croft; the old farmhouse of "The Chamber" (the definite article being always applied to the place, earlier and later) seeming in its weather-worn stonework to have been raised, in all likelihood, from the ruined walls of the structure upon the opposite hill. Robert Peel, when his fortunes were rising, bought the place and took down the front, building in its stead a dwelling of more mansion-like proportions; but the curious investigator may still find remains of the old farm-stead in the rear, which, after the overthrow, real or reputed, of the Castle, formed, for a very long period, the only noticeable building upon the wide extent of low land lying on that side of Bury.

The alteration of Chamber Hall was expedited throughout the winter of 1787-8 in consequence of Mrs. Peel's situation, it being considered desirable that her confinement should take place in the new abode. The family entered "The Chamber" in January, although part was still unready; and on Shrove Tuesday, February 5th, the boy, Robert Peel, the future statesman of England, was born, two sisters, Elizabeth and Mary, preceding him.

As another old-time memory of the "troubled times" may be mentioned the strife commemorated in "battle-wall," the invaders coming from beyond Cockey Moor, consequently crossing the river to enter Bury Lane.

MARY ROBERTS.

THE CHRISTIAN ERA: 1883 OR 1888?—The *Jewish Chronicle* says the much-debated question as to the correctness of the hitherto accepted reckoning of the years which have elapsed since the birth of Jesus has again been mooted by Professor Sattler, of Munich, in the columns of a German contemporary. Professor Sattler claims the distinction of having solved the problem, and of having demonstrated the fact that the current year is properly 1888 instead of 1883. He bases his proofs mainly on three coins which were struck in the reign of Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, and which date, consequently, from the first half of the first century of the current era. Madden admits the genuineness of these coins, and other numismatic writers do the same. The evidence they offer concides with the narrative of the Gospels and with astronomical calculations. The following are the results at which Professor Sattler has arrived. Jesus was born on the 25th December, 749 years after the founding of Rome, and commenced his public career on the 17th of November, 780 years after the founding of Rome. He was then 30 years, 10 months, and 22 days old. The date on which he commenced his career fell in the 15th year of the Emperor Tiberius and in the 46th year after the building of Herod's Temple. This is in accordance with St. Luke iii., 1, and St. John ii., 20. According to Josephus (*Antiquities* XV. 11, 1) the construction of Herod's Temple was commenced in the 18th year of that monarch, or in the year 734 after the founding of Rome, in the month of October. If we add the 46 years which elapsed after the building of the Temple we arrive at the end of the year 780, the year during which Jesus entered on his career. If, moreover, we subtract from 680 (779 years 10 months and 17 days) 30 years 10 months and 25 days, there remain 748 years 11 months and 25 days, which gives us the date of his birth the 25th of December of the 749th year after the founding of Rome. Jesus died on the 7th of April, 783 of the Roman era—that is to say, on the Friday before Passover; for it has been ascertained by exact calculation that Passover fell that year on the 7th of April, 783; and as the latter year was a Jewish leap year, and consisted, accordingly, of thirteen months, his public career lasted two years and seven months. Between the 17th of November, 780, and the 9th of April, 783, three Passovers were celebrated, viz., 781, 782, and 783. Those years correspond with the 27, 28, 29, and 30 of the Christian era as at present calculated. Remembering, however, that the year of the birth of Jesus corresponds with the year 749 of the Roman era, and taking that year as the starting point of the Christian reckoning, the year of Jesus's career must be the 31st, 32nd, 33rd, and 34th of the new era. It thus results, according to Professor Sattler, that the Christian reckoning is at fault by five years, and that we are now in 1888, and not in 1883.

Saturday, May 26, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE. V.: BOOTH-STREET,
PICCADILLY.

[3,138.] With the name borne by this street, and by several public places in Salford, is associated much of the history of Manchester, as well as that of the neighbouring borough. The successful Salford merchant-draper—contemporary with our “Martyr King”—founder of Trinity Church, Salford, and the munificent general benefactor of his native town, Humphrey Booth (styled “the elder” to distinguish him from his son, and more particularly from his generous and public-spirited grandson, of the same name) was a Manchester landed proprietor and a liberal supporter of several Manchester charities. It is, however, as a Salford benefactor, though as a Manchester estate owner, that we must regard him for the purposes of this note.

By a deed dated in 1630 the worthy founder granted to Adam Byrom, Thomas Mort, Adam Pilkington, John Lownds, George Crannage the younger, and John Whitworth, as trustees, “All that Barn with the Appurtenances situate . . . in Manchester . . . in or near unto the Highway or Lane leading between the Town of Manchester aforesaid and a certain Place near thereunto adjoining, commonly called the Shooter’s Brook . . . and all those Two Closes . . . of Land, Meadow, and Pasture . . . lying and being in Manchester aforesaid, near unto the said Highway or Lane aforesaid, containing by Estimation Six Acres of Land or thereabouts . . . and also all those Three Closes . . . of Land, Meadow, or Pasture then called Millward Crofts or Mileworth Crofts, lying and being in Manchester aforesaid containing by Estimation Eight Acres of Land or thereabouts.” The profits of this land were, after the founder’s death, to be distributed toward the relief of aged and needy Salford people, according to the judgment and discretion of the two constables of the borough of Salford, and of the Salford representative churchwarden of the Manchester Parish Church.

In the year 1776 the trustees under this deed were John Gore Booth and James Massey, Esquires, of Salford; Samuel Clowes, senior, and Samuel Clowes, junior, Esquires, of Manchester; Thomas Gorton, merchant, of Salford, and John Cooke, gentleman of Salford. The estate includes what is now the upper end of

Piccadilly, and extends from that place through Garrett to Oxford Road; and, being in the year before-mentioned (1776) found to be “conveniently situated for building Houses upon for the Use of the Inhabitants of the Town of Manchester”; and the trustees having no power to lease any part of their trust property; an Act of Parliament was, in the same year, secured, whereby the trustees were empowered to grant leases for 99 years, and to renew leases, and to lay out ways, streets, or passages for the convenience of theirlessees. These leases were to contain covenants by the lessees to build and keep in repair “messuages and other buildings.” The trustees soon began to exercise their newly-granted powers; and “Booth-street” was not long before it came into existence; though it was not till many years afterwards that the street was made a thoroughfare for horses and vehicles.

Edward Baines, in his *History, Directory, and Gazetteer of the County Palatine of Lancaster* (1825), hints that this power of leasing was once exercised in favour of one of the trustees to the considerable loss of the charity, which at that time, he says, produced an annual income of £979. 4s. 11d.

References on the subject being easily accessible if not familiar to most of your readers I need not here give further particulars of Humphrey Booth, or of his family.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AUTHORSHIP OF SONGS.

(Query No. 3,136, May 19.)

[3,139.] The duet “Deserted by the waning moon” was written by T. Dibdin, composed by Braham in 1805, and was sung by Braham and Incledon in the opera of the *English Fleet*. General G. P. Morris, known as “the song-writer of America,” wrote “The Old Oak Tree,” beginning “Woodman, spare that tree,” and the music was composed by Henry Russell, the eminent vocalist.

ONEZ.

* * *

“Woodman, Spare that Tree” was written by George P. Morris, of New York, for many years associated with the late N. P. Willis in the publication of the *New York Mirror*, and afterwards the *Home Journal*, and at one time considered the most successful song writers in the United States. Mr. Morris was born in Philadelphia in 1802, and most of his poetry was written and published between the years 1823 and 1850. His best known poems are entitled “My

Mother's Bible," "Near the Lake where drooped the Willow," "Where Hudson's Wave," "We were Boys together," and others, of which a list may be found in Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, vol. ii., p. 1371, where a sketch of his life also appears. See also Duyckinck's Cyclopædia of American Literature, vol. ii., pp. 347-350. Mr. Morris has been dead about ten years.

H. J. F.

Bowdon.

THE FIRST MENTION OF TOBACCO, AND ITS FIRST NAME.

(Note No. 3,132, May 19.)

[3,140.] The translation of the Latin verses of George Buchanan given by HERRITE, in which it is stated that the "Learned Nicotius returning from the Western coast brought back tobacco (Nicotiana)," would convey the incorrect idea that Nicotius brought it from America. Woodville (1790) gives its history concisely:—Tobacco was first imported into Europe about the middle of the sixteenth century, by Hernandez de Toledo, who sent it to Spain and Portugal; at that time the Ambassador of Francis II. resided at the Court of Lisbon, and in the year 1560 he carried the tobacco into France, when it was presented to Catharine de Medicis as a plant from the new world, possessing extraordinary virtues. The Ambassador's name was Nicot, and hence the appellation Nicotiana." Gerard (1597) calls it "Tabaco, or Henbane of Peru;" L'Obel (1605) "*Indorum Sana Sancta, sive Nicotiana Gallorum*." I have never seen the name *Medicæa* for it before, but De Théis says, speaking of Nicotiana:—"Le premier pied en fut présenté à Catharine de Médicis, et c'est de là qu'on l'appela aussi *herbe à la reine*." As tobacco was first seen in use, by Europeans, when Columbus and his followers landed in Cuba in 1492, the name Nicotiana was applied to it many years after the herb was known, and survives only as its scientific appellation, fitting admirably into the modern system of botanical nomenclature.

R. H. ALCOCK.

EARLY NEWSPAPERS IN LANCASHIRE.

(No. 3,133, May 19.)

[3,141.] In her notes on the above subject, Miss MARY ROBERTS is not strictly correct in stating that the first newspaper issued in Liverpool was *Billinge's Liverpool Advertiser*. This paper, as Miss ROBERTS herself states, was not issued till 1756, whereas Samuel Terry, the first individual who practised the

art of printing in Liverpool, had issued a paper under the title of the *Liverpool Courant* as early as the year 1712. The exact date of the appearance of the first number of this paper cannot be obtained, but Mr. Brooke, in his interesting volume on *Liverpool in the latter part of the Eighteenth Century*, has given a full description of the eighteenth number, the full title of which runs as follows:—"The Liverpool Courant, being an abstract of the London and other news, from Tuesday, July 15th to Friday, July the 18th, 1712. No. 18. Printed by S. Terry, in Dale-street." I may add that Mr. Brooke had a copy of the above number before him when writing his account of the same.

Is Miss ROBERTS also correct in stating that the first Manchester newspaper appeared in 1730? If we are to place any reliance on what has already been written on the subject, I think not. In volume iv., *City News*, N. and Q. answer 2,950, it is stated that the first newspaper printed in Manchester was the *Manchester Weekly Journal*, published in the first week of January, 1719, and continued until 1726, when it was discontinued owing to the publisher leaving the town. Then, next in order of precedence come Whitworth's *Manchester Gazette*, issued on December 22, 1730. This is, of course, leaving aside the claim of *The Spy*, issued by the Cromwellian forces, in the time of the Civil War at Manchester, which, if such was issued, must certainly claim precedence over all others, as having been the first Manchester newspaper.

J. COOPER MORLEY.

Liverpool.

QUERIES.

[3,142.] DE QUINCEY AND RIVINGTON SCHOOL.—In an interesting article on the family of the Standishes, of Duxbury Hall, it is stated incidentally that De Quincey was sent to the Grammar School at Rivington. What authority has the writer for this statement? It is not mentioned either by himself or any of his biographers that I am aware of.

BOLTONIENSIS.

A TOWN OF GIANTS.—A company of men, all of whom are six feet or over in height, have founded a town in Montana, which they have named Giantville. Lots in this town will be sold only to men six feet or more in height, who have wives five feet and eight inches at least in stature.

MANCHESTER AND THE MORAVIANS.

[PART THE FIRST.]

It is now just a hundred years since the Moravian Brethren took possession of Fairfield (in our Manchester parish), where stands their model village or settlement. On the ninth of June, next year, there will, doubtless, be duly celebrated the centenary of the formal establishment of the congregation at that place. Probably few Manchester people are aware of the existence of this interesting sect (or, rather, church), and fewer still acquainted with its history. Most of those of our townspeople who are interested in the little community, and who naturally associate its work here with its quiet home at Fairfield, will, perhaps, learn with surprise that this primitive church had once a place of worship in Manchester itself, and not far from the Infirmary. The settlement at Fairfield has but slightly changed since its foundation a hundred years ago, and the following description given of it by Baines in his *History, Directory, and Gazetteer of the County Palatine of Lancaster* (1825) will, with tolerable fidelity, apply to the place as we now see it:—

“Fairfield, a beautiful village, four miles east of Manchester, in which there is a large establishment of the followers of Nicholas Lewis, Count of Zinzendorf, usually called Moravians. The ground plot of this establishment is laid out with considerable taste, and forms a large and commodious square. The front consists of several large well-built brick buildings with the chapel in the centre. Rows of dwelling-houses run on each side of the back front of the chapel, which are terminated by another row to complete the square. A broad paved street, with flagged foot-paths, passes round the square, and at the outer side of the street is another pile of excellent buildings, which surrounds three sides of the square, while in front there is a succession of gardens, in which the residents take air and exercise, and from which they draw a considerable share of vegetables for their tables. Opposite the chapel there is a burial ground, in which the sexes are separated, even in death. The inhabitants form an industrious, well-regulated, and religious community; and it is to the honour of the Moravians that they have, by their zeal and self-devotion, done more towards propagating the gospel in heathen lands, in proportion to their number and their means, than any other religious society.”

The author of the *Pictorial History of the County of Lancaster* (1844), in addition to his description in

the text, gives a woodcut view of Fairfield as it then appeared. He says: “Few of the present community are descended from the early emigrants; the settlement is comprised principally of English families who have embraced their belief, and the number is small because they conscientiously abstain from making proselytes.” He also refers to “the sisters of the community, who live under conventual rule, without being bound by monastic vows. They are,” he adds, “principally engaged in preparing a variety of pieces of embroidery and ornamental needlework, which are sold for the benefit of the society.” He further says: “The unmarried brethren occupy a corresponding building to the left of the chapel, and undertake the education of a limited number of boys.” This arrangement of houses has, however, lately been altered.

The above reference to needlework leads me to here copy a letter (never, I believe, before published) from the Court of King William IV.:—

Lord Howe has been honoured with the Queen's commands to acknowledge the beautiful specimens of Moravian work which Mrs. Holme has transmitted to her from the various establishments of the brethren in England. Her Majesty is much pleased with the feeling which has prompted this present, and, having herself seen the establishment at Herrnhut, and believing that the society, by the purity of their lives and the innocency of their doctrines, has the cause of religion and morality at heart, is graciously pleased to say that it is her intention to order some articles of Moravian work from the different societies mentioned in the enclosed lists.

Some of this work issued from Fairfield, and the late Recorder of Manchester and Chairman of the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions (Mr. J. F. Foster, himself a Moravian, the son of a Moravian bishop) was one of the influential personages who were instrumental in securing royal attention to the English settlements of the brethren. With Mr. Foster's relationship to the church I deal more fully in the second part of this article.

The main object of this article is to show the connection with Manchester itself of the ancient Church of the Moravians, and to interest Manchester readers principally in what is doubtless an historic institution. I propose, in furtherance of this object, to describe the situation and appearance of their old chapel in the town, to communicate certain particulars not generally known of the Fairfield Settlement, and to give the names and (briefly) the public history of a few local men of mark who have either been actual members of the communion or have

otherwise identified themselves with the work of the church. Before, however, showing Manchester's immediate connection with the body, I will give a short outline of the interesting general history of "The Church of the United Brethren," commonly called the Moravians.

In the little kingdom of Saxony there is a small town which bears the name of "Herrnhut," the Lord's Watch. It was founded in the year 1722 by Count Zinzendorf, upon part of his estates, as a home or refuge for the thitherto scattered remnants of the "Unitas Fratrum," a people with whom the Count had for some years previously identified himself, and who afterwards looked upon the Count not only as their patron but as their leader and father. Herrnhut is to-day—as it has been for a century and a half—the centre, home, or capital of the brethren. It is Herrnhut that sends out the well-known Moravian missionaries, who represent the oldest missionary organization of modern times—an organization which, supported by some of our leading nobility, is at this moment busily at work in Greenland, in Labrador, and among the North American Indians; in the Danish and English West Indian islands; on the Mosquito coast (of central America), and in Surinam (South America); in South Africa, Australia, Tibet, and Mongolia, and among the lepers of Jerusalem; and which has also, in times past, included in its sphere of work Lapland, Ceylon, Algiers, China, Persia, and Abyssinia, as also the lepers of South Africa. Perhaps the Moravians are best known to Englishmen generally as a community which has received special and conspicuous privileges from the hands of several of our kings, and the members of which were, with the Quakers, the first persons allowed to make affirmation instead of taking an oath in giving evidence. In the Acts of Parliament 20th George II., cap. 44, and 22nd George II., cap. 30 (passed in the years 1747 and 1749 respectively), the sect is described as "an ancient Episcopal Protestant Church." It would have been out of place in the statute for the undoubted fact to be stated, that the Moravian is really the oldest existing Protestant Church in the world!

Among the earlier "protestors" against the errors and malpractices of the Church of Rome stands prominently John Huss, of Bohemia, who, a member of an ancient Christian sect or church, founded in the ninth century, gathered round him a band of earnest followers, determined to worship God in true

Christian simplicity and spirituality. He suffered martyrdom in 1415, and, after his death, many of his followers took up arms to protect themselves and their families from the bitter persecution which was decreed against them. After the close of the open religious war which ensued, and which in the main proved disastrous to the Hussites, a portion of the latter (viz., most of those of their number who were averse to bloodshed and physical resistance) banded themselves in the year 1457 into a separate community, adopting "the Bible as their creed, and the law of Christ as their rule," and named themselves the "Unitas Fratrum" (Unity of the Brethren), and were a few years later, when they had organized themselves into a church, generally known as "the Church of the United Brethren"—a name which to this day is the correct or official name of the Moravian body.

This church organization at once assumed the form of episcopal government, with synodal management, and strict ecclesiastical discipline. The members were immediately made the special objects of Romish persecution, the Diet of 1468 issuing a bloody decree against them. Persecution scattered and decimated them. Most of the brethren fled to Moravia, where (at first secretly, in forests and caves) they resumed their special style of worship and form of church government. Hence their best known name of "Moravians." "When," says the poet Montgomery, who was himself a Moravian, the son of a Moravian missionary, "they afterwards obtained some respite from persecution, they were the first people who employed the then newly-invented art of printing for the publication of the Bible in a living tongue; and they issued three editions of the Bohemian Scriptures before the Reformation!"

It is scarcely within the scope of this article to even briefly and superficially trace the history—it is but the history of untiring persecution and unflagging endurance—of the faithful little church during the Reformation period, and the succeeding two centuries and a half, which preceded the time of the church's revival and its settlement on the hospitable domain of Count Zinzendorf. The Moravian mission to St. Thomas was established in 1732 (upwards of 150 years ago), and the famous mission to chilly Greenland was begun in the year following. After that—and before the Wesleyan missions (the next oldest series) were founded—fifteen other missions were undertaken by the brethren in various parts of the heathen world.

Our Manchester Fairfield has shared its name with a Moravian mission station or village in Jamaica.

The brethren settled in England, permanently, shortly before the middle of the last century. The first bishop in England was the Rev. John Gambold, a contemporary of whom, and also a Moravian bishop, the Rev. Peter Boehler, was avowedly the means of the conversion or spiritual enlightenment of John Wesley and of his brother Charles, and may, on that account and by reason of his influence over the Wesleys and their associates in the movement, be regarded as one of the original founders, if not the original founder, of the great Methodist movement. The Wesleys for a time identified themselves with the "Brethren;" and there are preserved in the valuable London archives, collected by the English Moravians, several interesting letters from the two Wesleys. In one of these—addressed to "The Rev. Mr. La Trobe" (a relative, by the way, of the first Recorder of Manchester and of the eminent engineer who now advises the Manchester Corporation), "Fetter Lane, London," and dated "Bath, July 30, 1786"—Charles Wesley says, "Should I live to meet my brother in London, he will desire a conference with you. . . . We may yet do something towards preventing any separation at all. . . . The great evil which I have dreaded for nearly fifty years is a schism. If I live to see that evil prevented, and also to see the two sticks, the Moravian and English Church, become one, . . . I shall then say, 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.'"

It is, however, to the numerous educational establishments founded by the homely settlers that England in general, and Manchester in particular, owes its principal debt of gratitude to the Moravians. What a long list of names of prominent Englishmen (including, I know, many distinguished Manchester men—knights, statesmen, merchants, scholars) might be compiled from the school records of Fairfield, Fulneck, Ockbrook, and other English settlements!

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

SHAKSPERE'S HOUSE.—It was reported, at the annual meeting of the Trustees of Shakspeare's Birth-place, held at Stratford-on-Avon on Saturday, that the number of visitors who had paid for admission to the poet's house and to the museum during the past year was close upon 13,000. It was unanimously resolved to throw open, free of charge, three days in each week, New Place, where Shakspeare lived and died. The offer of Mr. Halliwell-Phillips to autotype the Shaksperian documents and records in the museum was accepted, with thanks; and it was also decided to prepare a descriptive calendar of the contents of the library and museum.

Saturday, June 2, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SHAKSPERIANA.

(Query No. 3,135, May 19.)

[3,143.] A correspondent asks what is the meaning of the lines from *Midsummer Night's Dream*, act i., scene 1, which he quotes as follows:—

When wheat is green, when hawthorn buds appear,
Sickness is catching.

The copy of Shakspeare quoted by X. Y. Z. must either be badly printed, or he entirely overlooks the obvious fact that "when hawthorn buds appear" concludes a passage with a full stop at the end; and that "sickness is catching" begins an entirely new and distinct one.

A. B. C.

WOODMAN SPARE THAT TREE.

(Nos. 3,136 and 3,139.)

[3,144.] I remember the present version of this song making its appearance here about forty-two years ago, and for many years have known the statement that it was composed by Mr. G. P. Morris and given by him to Mr. Henry Russell. I have also read the letter sent by the author to the composer, stating the circumstances under which he wrote it. When I first heard it I recognized it as one well known in Galloway many a long year before I was born, and which I had heard many times nearly sixty years ago. Noticing the inquiry as to the author, I searched my books for a copy of the original Gallovidian one, and found authority in an interesting work by Mr. Malcolm M'Lachlan Harper, of Castle Douglas, intitled *Rambles in Galloway*, who also quotes from a valuable work intitled *Sketches in Galloway*, by my friend the late Mr. M'Diarmid, editor of the *Dumfries Courier*, and author of many works, which I contend shows it to be of Scotch and not of American origin.

The father of General Walker, the American filibuster, was a native of Gatehouse. He emigrated to Tennessee in 1814 or 1815. Many others have gone to America from the same district, and they would carry with them what was known to every man and boy in Kirkcudbrightshire. About a mile and a half from Gatehouse is the road from Cardoness Castle, and about the same distance is the road from Anworth, where you join the pleasant level mail road from Gatehouse to Newton-Stewart. Near the junction of

these roads is Ardwall, the residence of Mr. Walter M'Culloch, finely situated in woods near the bay. In what was formerly the garden at Ardwall there is a splendid specimen of the beech, which the genius of Campbell has immortalized. In the year 1800 its branches were so wide-spreading that the gardener, considering it to be cumbersome and injurious, endeavoured to persuade his master, Mr. M'Culloch, to cut it down. This was agreed to, but (quoting from the late Mr. M'Diarmid's *Sketches*) "a few days subsequent to this the ladies of Sir William Richardson's family, who resided at that time at Ardwall, were visited by their neighbours, the Misses Maxwell, of Cardoness; and while the whole party were walking in the garden and commenting on the beauties of the beechen tree, Mr. M'Culloch informed them that it had become cumbersome, and was just about to be cut down. The ladies were astonished to hear him say so, and exerted all their eloquence to dissuade him from a deed which in their eyes seemed a species of petty if not high treason against the majesty of nature. In deference to their wishes a respite was granted, and shortly afterwards the highest poetic genius in the land was willingly exerted to avert the fate of the doomed tree. Among the party in the garden there was a young lady, governess to the Misses Maxwell and sister to the author of the *Pleasures of Hope*; and as she too was an admirer of the works of nature, she immediately wrote to her brother, related what was intended, and implored him to pen a petition in favour of the beechen tree. The poet complied, and almost immediately transmitted to Mr. M'Culloch the original copy of the now famous verses."

The tree was saved, and, from its connection with the poem, became an object of greater interest than ever. To strengthen the association the verses were engraved on a brass plate; copies, too, were printed for private circulation, and a note appended by Mr. M'Culloch detailing the circumstance here narrated, and concluding with the sentence:—"Although the tree cannot be so lasting as the fame of him who composed its poetic, pathetic, and beautiful prayer, nevertheless the present owner hereby fervently solicits his successors to let their tenderness and taste be marked by giving a life-rent lease to this magnificent plant; or, to 'spare this little spot' until the ruthless hand of time, which spareth not neither man or things, may terminate the existence of the 'beechen tree.'"

THE BEECH TREE'S PETITION.

Oh! leave this barren spot to me!
Spare, woodman, spare the Beechen Tree!
Though bush or flow'et never grow,
My dark, unwarming shade below;
Nor summer bud perfume the dew
Of rosy blush, or yellow hue—
Nor fruits of autumn, blossom-born,
My green and glassy leaves adorn—
Nor murm'ring tribes from me derive
Th' ambrosial amber of the hive—
Yet leave this barren spot to me;
Spare, woodman, spare the Beechen Tree!

Thrice twenty summers I have seen
The sky grow bright, the forest green;
And many a wintry wind have stood
In bloomless, fruitless solitude,
Since childhood, in my rustling bower,
First spent its sweets and sportive hour;
Since youthful lovers, in my shade,
Their vows of truth and rapture made,
And on my trunk's surviving frame
Carv'd many a long-forgotten name.
Oh! by the sighs of gentle sound
First breathed upon this sacred ground—
By all that love hath whisper'd here,
Or beauty heard with ravish'd ear,
As love's own altar honour me—
Spare, woodman, spare the Beechen Tree!

WILLIAM CUMMING DAGGATT.

51, Talbot-street, Moss Side.

QUERIES.

[3,145.] THE GIMMEL RING.—I have come into possession of what is termed a "Gemel" or "Gamel" ring, and I should be glad if you could inform me what is the meaning of the term and what were they used for. It consists of four silver rings, each of a different pattern in the ornamentation, folded together and held in place by two bands which slip within each other, and when together show as being clasped. When the bands are pulled asunder then they form a chain of four links, the two outermost having a band to each. Each ring has a peculiar bend (sideways) in it, and this enables them to be put together and showing as one broad finger-ring. The one I have is, I know, more than one hundred years old. It is the first I have met with, and think they must be rather scarce.

THOMAS D. CROZIER.

Crich Chase, Ambergate.

[3,146.] FULTON AND ROBERT OWEN IN MANCHESTER.—In the autobiography of the late Robert Dale Owen, originally published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and afterwards reprinted (London, 1874, Trubner), it is stated that his father, Robert Owen

(the founder, as he has been called, of English Socialism, and for many years a resident in Manchester, where he became, at the age of nineteen, the manager of the Bank Top Mill, with 500 workpeople, and is said to have bought, 1791, from a Mr. Robert Spear, the first two bags of American Sea Island cotton ever imported into England) lodged at one time in "Brazen-nose"-street. At this place he met Robert Fulton, of steam-boat celebrity, who was a boarder in the same house and much straitened for means, but who afterwards went to New York and was the first to navigate by steam the Hudson River. To Fulton Owen generously advanced the sum of £170, of which £60 was repaid in 1797, but the remainder never returned. Can any of your readers say in what part of Brazenose-street the house referred to was situated, and whether any other facts are known as to the relations existing between Robert Owen and Robert Fulton, whose name is still cherished in the United States, and was given early in the century to one of the principal business streets in New York, as well as to the great ferry between New York and Brooklyn, which has hitherto carried the traffic of the two cities that is this week to be transferred, in part at least, to the great Brooklyn Bridge?

H. J. F.

THE POPULATION OF BERLIN.—The capital of the German Empire still continues to increase rapidly. On the 1st of May the population passed the figure 1,200,000. As the last census on December 1, 1880, gave the total number of inhabitants at 1,120,000, it appears that within two years and five months the increase has been 80,000 persons.

TWYKESBURY ABBEY HOUSE.—The Society of Antiquaries of London are appealing for funds for the purchase of the residence known as the Abbey House, at Twykesbury, standing in its own grounds on land which embraces the site of the whole of the old monastic buildings, the house itself being a portion of those buildings, so as to secure them to the Abbey, of which they at once time formed an integral part.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.—A great improvement has been lately effected in the western façade of Lincoln Cathedral by the removal of the earth which had accumulated about its base, and the lowering of the area in front to the depth of three or four feet. The gain in architectural effect is most striking. Previously the shafts and mouldings and arches sprang at once from the ground, without any apparent structural connection. Now the disclosure of the original Norman plinth, hidden for centuries, gives unity to the whole structure, and adds immensely to its dignity. A plan is under contemplation for continuing the work along the southern flank of the cathedral, now buried many feet by the accumulated soil, and lowering the public road which runs round the building.

Saturday, June 9, 1883.

NOTES.

HOW TO READ THE CANTERBURY TALES: A FEW SIMPLE RULES.

[3,147.] 1. The verse is the ordinary ten-syllables-to-a-line, or "heroic," or epic couplet, constantly varied by couplets of eleven syllables to a line, except the Lawyer's Tale, the Clerk's Tale, and the Prioress's Tale, which are in seven-line stanzas.

2. Final e is pronounced, unless the following word begins with a vowel or mute h. In this case it is frequently elided. The chief instances in which it is pronounced are:—

- (a) Oblique cases of nouns and adjectives.
- (b) In the plural.
- (c) In adverbs, especially the comparative of them
- (d) Plural indicative. }
- (e) Infinitive mood. }

In these last two the dropt n should be restored. The scribes marked it thus:—ē. First the mark was omitted. Then the e followed, and much confusion arose.

- (f) In such instances as "the yonge sonne"—pronounced like German.

3. It must be remembered that the use of final e or en is fluctuating in Chaucer. He wrote at a transition period, and often he or a scribe omits inflections to suit himself. Be and ben are used as participles indifferently.

4. In the potential mood e is generally pronounced.

5. H is generally silent—if, indeed, it is not altogether so.

6. As in Shakspeare and many poets of his time, so in Chaucer, words like flower, hour, fire, are often reckoned as of two syllables. Keats, Tennyson, and their imitators, are unpardonably guilty of these archaisms—unpardonably because it is not the modern English usage to so split such words.

7. Frequently in the *Canterbury Tales* it will be found that Chaucer makes a long syllable stand in place of a foot at the opening of a line. I have not seen this habit of his noticed by any commentator. The following is likewise an unnoted peculiarity.

8. Two identical words may rhyme to each other if they have different meanings:—

The holy blisful martyr for to seeké
That hem hath holpe when that they wer seeké.

This is frequently found.

9. The relative is used for the conjunction "that" plus a demonstrative, *e.g.*:—

And bathud every veyne in swich licour
Of which vertu engendred is the flour.

i.e., *that* the flourr is engendered of *this* "special power"—(vertu, *cf.* "virtue hath gone out of me.")

10. As in French, a negative has *ne* with the verb in many instances.

11. *E* is often omitted before or after *r*. Wonder and Flaundes are each one syllable.

12. The impersonal use of verbs is frequent:—Me semed, me thinketh (= me seems), peyned hire, and so forth.

13. The participle with *ge* shortened to *i* or *y* is common:—*i-ronné*, *i-madé*, *i-schrevé*.

14. "As brode as is a bokeler or a targe." After a second "as" in comparisons, the substantive verb is almost invariably used.

15. Many common contractions are employed by Chaucer, *e.g.*, Benedicite is beneyte in three syllables for five; so Benedict is Beneyt or Benet.

16. In reading Chaucer, if a line halts, in nearly every instance an inflexion has been omitted, or the reader fails to pronounce inflexional *e*. Chaucer is the most musical of all English poets.

Other minor canons of pronunciation may be noted by readers. These are the chief that I have observed in reading Chaucer or preparing for the instruction of pupils to be examined in one part or other of his works.

W. DOIG.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GIMMEL RINGS.

(Query No. 3,145, June 2.)

[3,148.] Gimmel or Gimmow Rings are of French origin, and are so called because the first rings of this kind were of double or twin hoops (Latin, "gemellus;" French, "jumelle"). Afterwards they were made with a triple or quadruple link, but the name remained unchanged. At first they were simple love-tokens, but at last became the "rings of affiance," and were used at the time of betrothal, the man and woman breaking away the upper and lower rings from the central one, which was kept by the witness. At the actual marriage the three portions of the ring were joined together and used at the ceremony. Herrick, in his *Hesperides*, has these lines:—

Thou sent'st to me a true-love knot: but I
Return'd a ring of jimmals, to imply
Thy love had one knot, mine a triple-tye.

GAMMA.

QUERIES.

[3,149.] LARGEST LOCOMOTIVE DRIVING WHEEL.—Can any reader give the dimensions and full particulars of the largest driving wheel of a locomotive in England?
E. R. R.

[3,150.] CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO LLANDUDNO.—Could any reader give the best roads to take for a tricycle run to Llandudno, from Manchester; and if he has performed it, how long did it take?—M.A.R.

[3,151.] MOSQUITO BITES.—A friend in the Far West has more than once asked me to get to know a cure for the bite of the mosquito and other insects. Not having succeeded privately, I now ask leave to appeal for an answer through the columns of N. and Q.
ELIZABETH H.

[3,152.] A STRANGE FISH IN THE MARKET.—Can any reader enlighten me as to the proper name, species, and locality of a fish which has lately been sold in Smithfield Market, which one salesman ignorantly termed red mullet, while another styled it "red garf"? It is a heavy-looking, red and orange-yellow fish, rather coarse in flesh; sold at fourpence per pound.
E. SUTTON.

TOBACCO SMOKING.—Mr. Walter, M.P., recently stated in the House of Commons that he had had a promising young friend who smoked, and who died of paralysis, at an early age, in consequence. John Nerloff, aged 105, who lives in the State of New York, was recently interviewed. Here is his testimony in regard to tobacco:—"How long have you been a smoker?" "All my life." "How much do you smoke now?" "It depends upon how much tobacco I have. If I have plenty I smoke all my time." "What kind of tobacco do you use?" "Any kind."

WHY THE GERMANS EMIGRATE.—Except among officers hungry for promotion, and young men eager for excitement and adventure, the mere idea of war is viewed in Germany with a repugnance which in England is hardly conceivable. A considerable proportion of the Germans who leave their country for the Far West, leave it less to better their condition than to avoid the incidence of military service. The two great wars in which Germany, since 1815, has been involved, were in both instances followed by a portentous increase of emigration. Ask an American-German, or his son sent to the old country for his education, which country he prefers,—that of his birth or his adoption. The answer is invariably the same,—"America, of course. There is no military service there!" Nobody knows better than Prince Bismarck the wretchedness wrought by war, a wretchedness far more keenly felt by those who stay at home than by those who have to face the bullets of the foe. The survivors are always the greatest sufferers.—*Spectator*.

Saturday, June 16, 1883.

NOTES.

MR. JOHN BRIGHT: ÆTAT THIRTY-ONE.

[3,153.] Turning over a file of the *Times* for July, 1843, I came across an epigram which is worth reviving in connection with the John Bright celebration of the present week. It occurred in a report of a meeting of the Anti-Corn Law League, at which Mr. Cobden, Mr. Villiers, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Milner Gibson, and Dr. Bowring, were present, the purpose of the gathering being to congratulate the electors of Durham on the return of Mr. Bright as M.P. for that city. In the course of the oratory that graced the occasion, Dr. Bowring said he had the proud privilege on the previous evening of escorting his friend Mr. Bright to the table of the House of Commons; and he confessed that some melancholy thoughts came over him when he contrasted the opinion out of doors, from which he had come, with the opinion within doors, to which he went. An old epigram ran through his mind at the moment, and he could not help reverting to it, and the comment which at the time he made on it. When Dr. Goodenough was called on to preach to the House, a witty member said:—

'Tis well enough that Goodenough
Should to the Commons preach;
For, sure enough, they're bad enough
Whom Goodenough could teach.

He (Dr. Bowring) thought that—

It was meet enough and fit enough
The House should be enlightened;
For, sure enough, they're dull enough
And wanting to be Brightened.

He had long watched the progress of his youthful friend, and was delighted to find him about to appear in Parliament armed with the courage of youthful virtue.

F. H.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A STRANGE FISH IN THE MARKET.

(Query No. 3,152, June 9.)

[3,154.] I have noticed the fish alluded to by your querist in the Smithfield Market lately, and immediately recognized it as an old familiar friend, very plentiful on the coast of Cornwall. I do not know its correct name, but the natives call it "Jack Wray." The fish can be taken with almost any bait—in fact, I remember in the summer of 1869 catching a monster

one, weighing about 14lbs., with a conger hook, and a limpet for a bait, off the Battery Rocks at Penzance. Although these fishes were so very plentiful, I never saw one offered in the markets, but as at times you could get fifteen or twenty mackerel for a shilling this was not to be wondered at. CHARLES E. STOTT.
Manchester.

THE LARGEST LOCOMOTIVE DRIVING WHEEL.

(Query No. 3,149, June 9.)

[3,155.] The locomotive having the largest driving wheel in England on the 4ft. 8½in. gauge, is engine No. 173, "Cornwall," on the London and North-Western Railway. Diameter of driving wheels, 8ft. 6in.; cylinders (outside), 17½in. diameter, 24in. stroke. This engine was designed by Trevithick, and built November, 1847, with the boiler *under* the driving axle, and ran on eight wheels; but it was rebuilt by Mr. Ramsbottom, late L. and N. W. locomotive superintendent, with the boiler *above* the driving axle, and runs on six wheels. She may occasionally be seen at London Road Station.

The broad gauge can boast of a still larger driving wheel. On the Bristol and Exeter Railway (now part of the Great Western) a number of ten-wheeled tank engines were built in 1853, by Rothwell and Co., Bolton-le-Moors, with driving-wheels 9ft. diameter. cylinders (inside) 16½in. diameter 24in. stroke, and a four-wheeled bogie at each end of the engine; but about 1869 some of them, or perhaps all, had their driving wheels reduced to 8ft. 10in. diameter, and since the acquisition of that system by the G. W. R. some have been converted to main-line tender engines; but I believe the 8ft. 10in. wheels are still under them.

R. N. H.

THE CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO LLANDUDNO.

(Query No. 3,150, June 9.)

[3,156.] M. A. R. will find the route by way of Northwich, Chester, Holywell, and St. Asaph's a splendid road for the tricycle, and if he has a good machine there is no part of it so hilly as to necessitate a dismount. I did the journey last autumn in two days, and enjoyed it. I have heard that it has been done in one day, but as I am not an athlete, and did not care to make too much toil of my pleasure, I took two to do it. I left home at eight o'clock a.m., reached Northwich at 11 15, had a light lunch, and left at 11 45, reaching Chester about 3 30 without a further halt. I spent the remainder of the day in seeing

"the lions" of the city. At 7 30 the next morning I was en route for Holywell, at which place I arrived about 10 30 or 11, having met with a mile or two of heavy road, owing to recent rain. I rested here some fifteen minutes, and then made for St. Asaph's, where I lunched and rested an hour before remounting. From this latter place I rode, without halting more than for a glass of milk, to Llandudno, at which place I arrived as the clock was striking five. Although I felt a little fatigued on arrival, a good dinner, a wash, and an hour's rest made me feel quite ready for another twenty miles.

THREE-WHEELER.

MOSQUITO BITES.

(Query No. 3,151, June 9.)

[3,157.] When in Ontario I was rather pestered by mosquitoes in or near swampy localities by being stung on the back of the hands on the lower side; also on the back of the neck and edge of the ears, causing extreme itching. I found relief in plain vaseline. It acts like magic, and washes off easily.

J. M'DONA.

61, Langham-street, Liverpool.

* * *

I quote the following from an excellent guide book called the *J. E. M. Guide to Switzerland*, published by Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., p. 31:—"Take a little powder of the plant called *Pyrethrum roseum*, make it into a paste with a few drops of spirits, dilute it with thrice as much water as spirits, and apply it to the hands and face, or any exposed portion of the body, and let it dry. No mosquito or fly will touch you." Again on page 51 of the same work is the following:—"The bites of flies or mosquitoes may be instantly eased by washing the parts with a little diluted caustic ammonia (not spirits of ammonia), one part to two of water." I have just made a tour through Switzerland, some parts of which at this time of the year are much infested with mosquitoes. I therefore had occasion to test both the remedies prescribed by the editor of the guide book in question, and having found them infallible I feel justified in recommending them.

Geneva.

A MANCHESTER MAN.

QUERIES.

[3,158.] CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO NORFOLK.—I shall be glad if anyone can give me a good route from Manchester to Swaffham, in Norfolk, with stopping-places not more than forty miles apart.

THREE-WHEELER.

[3,159.] CAMELS AND DROMEDARIES.—The other day I heard rather a warm discussion on the above subject. One party asserted that the main difference betwixt the two animals was the fact of the camel having two humps on its back and the dromedary only one. Another gentleman would have it that this statement was entirely wrong. He says that a dromedary is merely a swift species of camel, and that there are some with one and some with two humps, and that the same applies to the ordinary or slower species. Can any of your readers say which is correct?

J. W.

MANCHESTER AND THE MORAVIANS.

[PART THE SECOND.]

Clayton, an old seat of the Byron family, is within a very short distance of Fairfield; and both places are in the parish of Manchester. In this connection it is interesting to record that the famous naval officer, Admiral the Hon. John Byron (grandfather of the celebrated poet, Lord Byron), while "Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland, coast of Labrador," was the signatory to the formal proclamation—issued in pursuance of an order of Council made by King George III. in 1769—authorizing "the Unitas Fratrum and their society for the furtherance of the gospel among the heathen to make a settlement on the northern coast of Labrador for the purposes of civilizing and instructing the savages inhabiting the coast . . . and to keep and possess, during his Majesty's pleasure, a certain quantity of land . . . on the coast of Labrador." His Excellency adds: "This establishment is undertaken and formed under his Majesty's express direction and authority, whose protection they are under; and all officers, civil and military, within my government, are hereby strictly charged and required not to give any interruption or hindrance to the said Mission; but that they do afford the said brethren all friendly assistance for the success of their pious undertaking, calculated for the benefit of mankind in general, and for the Kingdom of Great Britain in particular." This interesting proclamation is dated the 21st April, 1770, and is preserved in the archives of the "Brethren's Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel." The Admiral died in 1786, two years after Fairfield was founded.

The name "Byron" reminds me of another—a similar one. John Byrom, our fellow townsman—poet and

theologian—the busy letter writer, who secured statutory protection for his shorthand system, has recorded much interesting matter relative to the Moravians. For instance, in a letter to his wife, dated in 1742, from London, he says: “Yesterday my scholar, the member, Mr. Ereskine . . . took me to hear Mr. Spangerberg (*sic*), a chief man amongst the Moravian brethren, who preached at a place in Fetter Lane, where I had never been before. I wish we had many such preachers in our Church. We should not hear it observed that Christian divines preached without one word of J.C. Mr. Ingham has not been in London that I can hear of.” I may here explain that Dr. Spangenberg was not only one of the Moravian bishops, but was, on Count Zinzendorf’s death, appointed the latter’s successor, as President of the Herrnhut Supreme Council. The Moravian Chapel in Neville’s Court, Fetter Lane, London, is a spot historical. It was the meeting place of Wesley, Whitefield, Ingham, the Countess of Huntingdon, and other founders of the great movement before referred to. Mr. Ingham joined the Brethren’s Church, but afterwards practically seceded. He married Lady Margaret Hastings, daughter of the Earl of Huntingdon, and sister-in-law to the famous countess.

Byrom corresponded with Zinzendorf himself; and a Latin letter (dated in 1739) commencing “Viro in vuln. Chr. dilectissimo Joanni Birom salutem,” and concluding, “Tu vero vale, vir amicissime, et tui non immemori fave, Zinzendorfflo,” “for Mr. John Birom at Manchester,” has been published by the Chetham Society; as also a German letter (dated in 1740) from John Christian Jacobi; in which the writer tells Byrom that Count Zinzendorf’s works would soon be all printed and published; and that the cold weather (!) had delayed the printing. An earlier letter from the same correspondent, “To Dr. Byrom, to be left at Abington’s Coffee House, . . . Holborn,” contains a sentence which Dr. Parkinson has thus translated:—“No doubt the name of Count Zinzendorf will rouse the curiosity of many readers [of a translation of the pious Armelle] to know what experience the author has in real Christianity; therefore should I very much like a Byromian helper or prompter to come to my assistance in my present difficulties.”

Count Zinzendorf died in 1760, after amply endowing the little church, whose faithful champion he was, and for whose sake he renounced the Court life, so familiar to his ancestors, and as one of whose

ministers he sought and obtained ordination, without disclosing his high social rank.

The late John Frederick Foster, for twenty years Chairman of the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions, and for thirteen years previously Stipendiary Magistrate for Manchester, was a Moravian, and a son of a Moravian. His father was the Rev. Frederick William Foster, a bishop of the Brethren’s Church, and his mother, Anna Louisa Eleanora, was a daughter of the Rev. Benjamin La Trobe, particularly referred to in a later portion of this article. Mr. Foster was lineally descended from Sir Thomas Foster, Knight, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1607, and father of a Chief Justice of the King’s Bench in Charles the Second’s reign. Mr. Foster, on being called to the bar in 1821, chose the Northern Circuit, and settled in Manchester as a special pleader and conveyancer (taking up his residence at the Fairfield Moravian Settlement, where also lived his father, the Bishop), and was appointed: first, a Commissioner of Bankruptcy in Manchester; next (namely, in 1825), Stipendiary Magistrate; afterwards (in 1838), Chairman of the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions. Mr. Foster was *not*, as once stated in a leading Manchester paper, appointed Recorder of Manchester, and I wish to here correct the error. On the twentieth anniversary of his appointment as Chairman of Quarter Sessions (*viz.*, the 9th April, 1858), Mr. Foster died while in the active service of the Moravian Church. A special missionary service for the benefit of the Moravian missions was being held at Chorley Church, Alderley Edge. The organist being away, Mr. Foster, who, like most of the Moravians and immediate descendants of Moravians, was a musician and organist, volunteered to supply his place, but while on the organ seat a fit of apoplexy seized him, and in an hour the learned and worthy gentleman was dead. I need only refer to the newspapers published at the time for particulars of his life and of the high esteem in which he was held in Manchester. He was a trustee of the Owens College, feoffee of Chetham’s Hospital, trustee of Hulme’s estates and Henshaw’s Blind Asylum, and president of the Salford Mechanics’ Institution. A marble statue of the eminent magistrate (erected by a distinguished namesake and relative, also the son of a Moravian) graces the Great Hall of the Manchester Assize Courts.

Another Moravian, of local and general celebrity, was the late Charles Hindley, for nearly twenty-

three years M.P. for Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. Hindley was born at the Fairfield settlement, and was the third son of Ignatius Hindley (a somewhat extensive manufacturer) and Mary his wife—members of the Brethren's Church—who both died while their distinguished son was very young. Mr. Hindley was educated, first at the Moravian school at Fairfield, afterwards at other institutions belonging to the Brethren. For a few years he was teacher at a Moravian establishment—the boys' school at Gracehill, in Ireland. On the death of his eldest brother, Mr. Hindley exchanged his scholastic engagements for the labours of commercial life; and in the year 1819 settled at Dukinfield, where he soon amassed considerable wealth. A few years afterwards he married a daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Buckley, of Carr Hill, near Mossley. Mrs. Hindley died in 1837. His second wife (whom he married in 1839) was the daughter of Mr. Richard Fort, of Reed Hall, Lancashire. The second Mrs. Hindley died in 1854, and I have before me a print of the sermon preached on the occasion of her funeral by a Moravian minister at the Moravian chapel, Dukinfield—a place of worship which Mr. Hindley with his family regularly attended. Mr. Hindley was one of the founders of the Ashton and Dukinfield Mechanics' Institute, was generally a liberal supporter of the various philanthropic and religious institutions of Ashton and Dukinfield, and was president of the Peace Society. He was first elected M.P. for Ashton in 1835, when he was returned at the head of the poll. At the same time he narrowly escaped being also elected for the borough of Wigan—a constituency which included many attached friends and ardent admirers of his. Mr. Hindley died in 1857. His death was hastened by the sudden bereavements he was called upon to sustain in his later life, one being that of his daughter and only child, the wife of Mr. Henry Woods, M.P. for Wigan. Mr. Hindley's remains were interred at the Moravian Cemetery, Chelsea, near those of other members of his family.

Other local gentlemen, no less distinguished than those before named, are or have been associated with the Brethren's Church; but as these are still amongst us, I do not propose to make any pointed reference to them in this article. I will now proceed to give the history of the Manchester and Fairfield places of worship and an account of their principal founders.

In the year 1755 there were established no less than eight out of the present thirty-seven English Mora-

vian congregations. Of this number was that at Dukinfield, which was, shortly after its formation, joined by several persons from Manchester, who undertook the regular task of walking all the way to that village to attend the Sunday services there. The principal means of the church's success at Dukinfield was the minister to whom Charles Wesley addressed the letter quoted in the first part of this article—the Rev. Benjamin La Trobe, one of the most conspicuous of the early English Moravians after the secession of the Wesleys and others of their sect. A few notes (not generally known) concerning Mr. La Trobe and his family will not, I think, be out of place at this stage. Aikin, in his *Description of the Country from thirty to forty miles round Manchester* (1795)—a book which, by the way, contains a short account, with an engraved view, of Fairfield—beside in the text referring particularly to Mr. La Trobe, gives a portrait of the reverend gentleman, engraved after a painting by Mr. Astley, of Dukinfield Lodge. The primary origin of the foundation of Fairfield was the compulsory breaking-up of the Dukinfield settlement; and Mr. La Trobe was one of the early movers in the formation of the Fairfield congregation. Aikin, after describing the Dukinfield settlement, as it stood in his time, says:—"These buildings were erected at a great expense by the community, under the promise of a renewal of the leases when they should drop, which, in consequence of the estates going out of the Dukinfield family, became null. Many negotiations were carried on with Mr. Astley for the purpose of accommodating the business upon equitable terms; but, after waiting some years without effect, the society determined on a removal, and accordingly erected their present fine building at Fairfield. Their former settlement at Dukinfield now looks like a deserted village. The chapel is still their property, held by the life of one old man; and service is performed in it by a resident maintained in the place."

The Rev. Benjamin La Trobe was born in the year 1728, being the son of Mr. James La Trobe by his first wife. This latter gentleman's father was John Henry Boneval de La Trobe, son of Henry, Count Boneval and Adelaide de Montmorencie. The count's ancestors (of the old French noblesse) embraced, at an early period, the doctrines of the Reformation, and were conspicuous characters in the religious wars which distracted France from time to time; and the family became involved in the persecution which followed

the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. The count's son, before-named, exiled from his native country, accompanied to England the Prince of Orange, afterwards our King William III., and subsequently settled in Ireland. The Rev. Benjamin La Trobe's wife belonged to another noble family which had also shared in religious persecution on the Continent, and was the sister of the Rev. John Antes (famous in Moravian annals), whose travels and mission work in Africa and in the East form a long chapter in romantic history. Mr. La Trobe, however, is best known to us as an author, and as an amateur musical composer, and as the learned translator of Crantz's famous *History of the Brethren* (so often quoted by Montgomery in his notes to his own poem of *Greenland*), as well as an honoured friend and associate of Charles Wesley. Mr. La Trobe died, as stated by Aikin, in 1786, just after seeing Fairfield firmly established. The names of other members of the La Trobe family are familiar to everyone, in connection with one Tune Book or another, which they have enriched with their compositions.

The early history of the old Manchester Moravian Chapel is connected with that of Dukinfield; its later history with that of Fairfield. Much of the information contained in the remainder of this article has been kindly obtained for me by the Rev. Leonard Hassé, Moravian minister and antiquary, of Gomersal, near Leeds.

About the year 1767 several earnest Manchester men, who had become interested in the Brethren's Church, and attracted by their zealous work, combined to urge upon the governing body of the Brethren to begin operations in Manchester. In the year 1768 their request was complied with, and there was appointed, to preach in Manchester, a minister whose name should become historical—the Rev. Z. G. Caries, the first Christian missionary to the English West Indies. Mr. Caries returned from Jamaica in the year 1759, after five years' faithful labour there. His first ministrations in our town were held in the house of one of the Manchester friends before mentioned, and were continued there until the year 1775, when a room was taken in Cannon-street, for preaching purposes. Two years later, viz., on the 13th April, 1777, a small chapel in Fetter Lane was opened for public service. The chapel was erected by one of these same Manchester friends, Mr. James Crabtree. This building, long disused, remained standing until recently. Its site, and that of the contemporary

adjoining property belonging to the Brethren, is now occupied by a newly-erected warehouse of considerable dimensions. The chapel was for many years, after its disuse for sacred purposes, occupied by Mr. Sykes, a bleacher, as a warehouse for his goods. Mr. Hassé, in referring to the buildings occupied by the Moravians, says: "The peculiar arched window-tops bore the closest likeness to a style of architecture adopted in old buildings belonging to the same period [the latter half of the eighteenth century], both in the square at Fairfield and in some cottages in Fairfield Lane. Proceeding out of Aytoun-street they stood on the right hand side and were constructed of brick."

Mr. Hassé has given me several interesting notes of the early history of the Manchester congregation, after the formation of Fairfield, from which notes I extract the following: "Unfortunately an independent [local] growth of the Society was not at all contemplated, and the members were enjoined to go to Fairfield for the ordinances of the Church, this naturally preventing the cause of the Society from taking root in Manchester. In the annual report of the congregation at Fairfield, for the year 1790, an entry is found to the effect that the attendance at Manchester was not good. In the following year the chapel was repaired, and a new organ erected, and the attendance was improving; still the members went preferably to Fairfield, where many had friends. Up to this time there was no resident minister, the Brethren of Fairfield in turn conducting the services of the Fetter Lane Chapel, assisted by a Mr. Haslop, of Manchester. In the year 1796 the experiment was tried to make a permanent appointment to the place." The experiment, lasting about a year, proved a failure, and the pastor was recalled. "The meetings were still kept up by visiting Brethren; but the attendance continuing to be poor, the services were in the year 1800 discontinued, and the chapel was abandoned."

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

THE BATTLE OF NEVILLE'S CROSS. — A monument is to be erected to commemorate the defeat of the Scots at Neville's Cross, in 1346, by the army of Queen Philippa, wife of Edward III. The spot is at present rudely marked by a dilapidated old stone cross without date or inscription. It is rumoured that a firm north of the Tweed has the order, and, such is the irony of fate, that Scotch granite is the material to be used!

Saturday, June 23, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: VI. HULME-STREET
AND BRAZENOSE-STREET.

[3,160.] It is noteworthy that most of our city streets, like most of our city churches, date from the latter half of the last century. Shortly after the formation of St. Ann's Square, the open fields lying behind the church began gradually to be built upon. One of these fields was Garden Croft, belonging to the trustees of Hulme's Charity; a close of land out of which have been formed, among others, Hulme-street, Brazenose-street, and Mulberry-street. The trustees, having in the year 1770 obtained an Act of Parliament to enable them to grant building leases, opened out these streets about the year 1773, and named them—the first after the founder of the trust, the second after the college interested in the trust.

William Hulme, of Kearsley, Esquire, by his will, dated in 1691, devised his lands of inheritance in Manchester and certain other places to James Cheatham, esquire, William Hulme, esquire, and William Bagguley, gentleman, to the intent "that the profits should be paid and distributed to and amongst such four of the poorest sort of Bachelors of Arts taking such degree in Brazen Nose College in Oxford as from time to time should resolve to continue and reside there by the space of four years commenced after such degree taken . . . such said Bachelors from time to time to be nominated and approved of by the Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, the Rectors of the Parish Churches of Prestwich and Bury . . . and their successors for ever."

The trustees, at the time of the passing of the Act, in 1770, were "the Right Hon. James Smith Stanley, commonly called Lord Strange [the Lord Stanley who was eldest son of the eleventh and father of the twelfth Earl of Derby]; Sir Roger Bradshaigh of Haigh, in the county of Lancaster, Baronet; Sir William Horton of Chaderton, in the same county, Baronet; and George Lloyd, then late of Hulme, but then of Barowby, in the West Riding of the County of York, Esquire;" the "nominators" then being the Rev. Samuel Peploe, LL.D., Warden of our Collegiate Church; the Hon. and Rev. John Stanley, Rector of Bury; and the Rev. Levett Harris, Rector of Prestwich.

1. The Act empowered the trustees to "grant leases of all or any part of the said trust estate lying within the said town of Manchester or the precincts or liberties thereof" for any number of years not exceeding ninety-nine years, or for certain lives, as is particularly provided in the Act. By one of these statutory leases, dated in 1773, the surviving trustees (Sir William Horton and George Lloyd, Esquire) leased to John Chadwick of Manchester, timber merchant, two plots of building land situate in Manchester, "parcel of a certain close or field called . . . Garden Croft;" one of which plots is described as being "bounded on the southerly side thereof by a certain intended street of twelve yards wide, and intended to be called Brazennose-street; on the northerly side thereof by another certain intended street of five yards wide, and intended to be called Mulberry-street; at the westerly end thereof . . . by lands then lately purchased or agreed for by William Ethelston, of Manchester, gentleman; at the northerly side and westerly end by a road or way of four feet wide or broad; and at the easterly end thereof also by another certain intended [unnamed] street of six yards wide or broad from north to south."

In a deed executed by Chadwick a few months later in the same year, reference is made to a *pump* standing upon this land, which pump, from the special clauses provided for its protection and due use, was apparently regarded as of considerable value.

"Brazen Nose Street and Mulberry Street" were, in less than a score years after their first formation, so much appreciated that they were scheduled (for compulsory extension) in the Manchester and Salford Improvement Act, 1792; and the former street was, shortly afterwards, opened out into what is now Albert Square.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CAMELS AND DROMEDARIES.

(Query No. 3,159, June 16.)

[3,161.] There are two species of camels, the Arabian and Bactrian. The Arabian is single-humped, and is found in Africa and India. There are many breeds, the swiftest of which is the thin, fine-haired dromedary. Camels will carry their load, varying from five hundred to one thousand pounds in weight, across the desert at the rate of twenty-five miles a

day; and some of them will carry their rider with his water at the rate of fifty miles a day. The dromedary has been described as the racehorse of this species, and is said sometimes to travel at the rate of one hundred miles a day, when it has no load but its rider.

The Bactrian species is two-humped, and is found between the Black Sea and China. It is larger, can carry heavier loads, has harder feet and a thicker coat than the other species. The hump or humps are masses of fat forming a reserve of nourishment upon which the animal draws when travelling where it cannot obtain food. There is not any curve in the vertebral column corresponding with the position of the humps. In parts of Central Asia where the two species exist, hybrids are not uncommon, and these (hybrids) are said sometimes to breed amongst themselves.

X.

CYCLIST'S ROUTE TO NORFOLK.

(Query No. 3,158, June 16.)

[3,162.] There are such a variety of routes and so many interesting places between Manchester and Swaffham that it is difficult to advise without knowing the tastes of the inquirer. The best way is to get a map and choose a route which will best suit one's individual taste.

The most direct route is by Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chesterfield, Mansfield, Newark, Sleaford, Holbeach, and King's Lynn. This is almost a straight line. The most beautiful way is by Buxton, Bakewell, and Matlock, and then on by Nottingham and Grantham. Many writers again would prefer going by Macclesfield, Leek, Ashbourne, and Derby. The two latter are the easiest, the middle one probably the easiest of the three, as it is certainly the most interesting. I have crossed Derbyshire all these ways, and though this county cannot be travelled without encountering hills, the beauty of the scenery amply makes amends. I have ridden from Swaffham by King's Lynn, Holbeach, Sleaford, Lincoln, Retford, Doncaster, Wakefield, and Huddersfield. This is a very good route, but was simply chosen in order to visit particular places. By this route the rider could go by Sheffield and Retford, or by Barnsley and Doncaster, if desired, and he would find any of them easier than crossing Derbyshire, but of course with inferior scenery.

But my advice to THREE-WHEELER is, be his own guide. He will everywhere find good roads and

good inns in our beautiful country; and, if possible, take his tricycle where tricycle has never been before; he will find it far more interesting.

W. BINNS.

QUERIES.

[3,163.] TENNYSON'S POEM, "THE FLOWER."—Can any of your correspondents give a satisfactory explanation of Tennyson's poem, "The Flower," the first verse of which is as follows:—

Once in a golden hour
I cast to earth a seed;
Up there came a flower,
The people said, a weed.

F. K.

GLIMPSES OF FAMOUS MEN.

THACKERAY, JOHN STUART MILL, AND LOUIS BLANC.

There are excellent reasons why we would give a great deal to know as much about Shakspeare as we do about Dr. Johnson. It is no idle curiosity which prompts us to ask to what manner of man this or that famous reputation belonged. It is not that we want the ill-natured satisfaction of realizing that, in all but their greatness, great men are as little as ourselves. On the contrary, it is a perfectly natural instinct to wish to know the identical fellow-being who has roused our admiration or our fury. Hence it is that as much curiosity is excited as to the personal appearance of a great criminal as to that of a great author. During the last five-and-twenty years photography has done much to gratify this honest inquisitiveness, and it is wonderful how rarely we are struck with any marked contrast between men's faces and their intellectual powers. As a rule people look their parts, as there is no doubt nature intended that they should. Otherwise, life would be altogether too complex. But much as physiognomy reveals, the most faithful portrait of a man is as nothing towards making his acquaintance by the side of a conversation of only five minutes. In my early days I happen, by chance, to have met a good many notable men. I was fully alive to my opportunities, and I retain a vivid impression of the way in which they appeared to me. My contribution to the gallery of sketches from life of distinguished men is a humble one. For what it is worth I here give it.

In 1859 or 1860 Miss Bateman came to England on her second visit, and took the town by storm with her impersonation of Leah. We were so tired of

being asked if we had seen Miss Bateman in *Leah*, that we ended in asking our friends if they had seen Miss Leah in *Bateman*. During the first few weeks of what in those days was an almost unprecedented run, I took a stall at the Lyceum and found myself next to Thackeray, who was alone. He was a great theatre-goer, and his face and figure, conspicuous in themselves, were known through the photographs to everybody. It was quite a common thing for play-goers to point him out to each other. I knew his writings by heart, and no man's appearance, manner, and conversation could correspond more closely to one's notion of the author of *Esmond*. I was only about eighteen at the time, and there is no doubt that he unbent more to me than he would have done to an older man. But with all his readiness to talk, and, indeed, his playfulness, he was, above all things, a born aristocrat. If I had had the misfortune to be a duke, I am sure that he would have been a great deal more particular as to who he spoke to so freely. He asked me, after the first act, what I thought of Miss Bateman, meaning, of course, of her acting. I was very young, even for my age; I had only just left boarding school, and I replied that I thought her a deuced fine woman. At this he chuckled, although I did not know why at the time. I asked him which he thought the noblest and most touching situation in the modern drama, and I was greatly surprised at his quoting a speech of Colonel Damas from the *Lady of Lyons*. At the end of the piece, the manager came to him and told him that Miss Bateman had been much pleased to hear that he was of the audience. He replied: "Give her my compliments, and tell her that she may have a lock of my hair dyed any colour she likes." His hair was silvery white. The manager then introduced him to a gentleman sitting in front of us as Lord somebody, and with singular bad taste, the lord said, with an incredulous smirk: "Not the great Mr. Thackeray?" At this, all Thackeray's inborn hauteur visibly manifested itself. He shook hands with me very cordially at parting, and it is only retrospectively in after years that I saw plainly that I was indebted to my youth and simplicity for this short but natural and unembarrassed conversation with a very great author. He quite realized one's ideal, and looked and spoke as if he practised what he preached.

Another writer, of whose works I was a no less industrious student a few years later, was John

Stuart Mill. In 1865, shortly after his return to Parliament for Westminster, Mill came to the office where I was a clerk about the transfer of some Consols. It was in my department, and I had to take him to the Bank of England. He was a little man with a big head and the blindest and simplest of manners, so that he caused you no flutter when you spoke to him, but evoked from others an ease and naturalness almost equal to his own. I asked him if it was true that the House of Commons was the nicest club in London. He replied that it might be, but for the dreadful smell of cooking. And this is all I remember of the conversation of the brilliant author of the text-books on Logic and Political Economy, and the prettiest book in the language, the *Essay on Liberty*. Before we parted I asked him for a pass for the gallery of the House, of which, at the time, I was an assiduous attendant. In due course I received an order for the Speaker's gallery. It was the night on which, having been struck with Professor Stanley Jevons' pamphlet on the gradual exhaustion of our coal-fields, Mill, with the characteristic imagination of a great economist, warned the nation to prepare for the time—I think it was about a thousand years hence—when we should have to provide some other kind of fuel. After that I often heard Mill speak at the turbulent political meetings which preceded the passing of the Disraeli Reform Bill of 1867, but no clamour and no opposition ever succeeded in the least perceptible way in shaking his self-command or in interrupting the clear and even flow of his ideas.

The name of Disraeli reminds me of a singular position in which I once saw him placed. It was in the year 1857 or 1858. A maniac was tried at the Old Bailey for sending threatening letters to Mr. Disraeli. I believe that Disraeli was Chancellor of the Exchequer at the time, and the maniac having got it into his head that he was the most obvious functionary to whom to apply for a small loan, he was greatly incensed at the neglect with which he had been treated. Like many other maniacs he insisted upon conducting his own case, and Mr. Disraeli was one of the witnesses for the prosecution, whom he had the satisfaction of cross-examining. Mr. Disraeli stood on the bench by the side of the Judge, with his arms folded, dressed in the usual black frock coat and check trousers. The prisoner's first question was "Are you a Jew or a Christian?" The Judge interposed, and said that he was not bound to answer

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Iron Bedsteads, full size, 12s. 6d. to 50s.

Iron French Bedsteads, with two brass rails, full
size, 16s. 9d. to £5.

French Bedsteads, full size, hand-polished, and
brass mountings, £3. 3s. to £10. 10s.

All-Brass French Bedsteads, full size, £5 to £30.

Half-Tester Bedsteads, with brass rails and mounts,
full size, 50s. to £10.

Half-Tester Bedsteads, with brass foot-ends, full
size, £5 to £25.

**JAMES LOWE, 13, 15, 17, 19, OLDHAM STREET,
MANCHESTER.**

"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive.

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

MANCHESTER :

CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.

1883.

Subscription 4/- per Year, Post Free.

Am...

the question. Mr. Disraeli, with a fine contemptuous smile, said: "I have no objection to answer it. I am what I have always been, a Christian."

In 1869 I had the pleasure of meeting Louis Blanc at a dinner party of lions, given by a young author, to the literary swells of his acquaintance. I and a few others acted as supernumeraries. We were the good listeners who are the complement of good talkers. The dinner was given in a private room at the Gaiety Restaurant. When I entered, Louis Blanc was standing with his back to the fire, a small, very plump, but admirably proportioned man, who literally beamed with *bonhomie*. He spoke English as well as any Frenchman that I remember. At that time he was fifty-seven years of age. I have lived much with Frenchmen, and Louis Blanc struck me as belonging to what I have always deemed to be the highest type of his race. He united all the vivacity, the flexibility, and the gaiety of the French, to a goodness as well as a sense of humour, a placidity, a "sweet reasonableness," an irradiating happiness, which made him one of the few men of whom I can say that he was fascinating at first sight. And this was the arch-republican, the terror of dynasties, the tribune who swayed multitudes, and could hasten or arrest a civil war. In private life this terrible gentleman was a model of good and gentle manners. His little bright eyes sparkled with the desire to do good, and his conversation was one steady glow of bright intelligence unspoiled by epigrams. But what a row there was when Louis Blanc said (what I have heard hundreds of other Frenchmen say), that Balzac is the Shakspeare of France! The conjunction of names is irrelevant; but of course Frenchmen must have their Shakspeare, and if this is granted, their selection is the fittest. In less than twelve months after this pleasant autumnal dinner party, Sedan had been lost and won, and Louis Blanc was once more in the front of the fight for democracy, but this time on the winning side.

CARTHUSIAN MONKS IN ENGLAND.—A Carthusian monastery, the first erected in England since the religious houses were suppressed by Henry the Eighth, was formally consecrated at Cowfold, Sussex, on Thursday. The monastery has been in course of erection for the past six years, a site having been secured when the ecclesiastical difficulties in France imposed upon the religious orders the necessity for seeking a different locality for their establishments.

Saturday, June 30, 1883.

NOTES.

THE NORMANS AND MECHANICAL SKILL IN LANCASHIRE.

[3,164.] Mr. James Nasmyth, the engineer and astronomer, in his recently published autobiography, has a passage in one of his chapters (the twelfth) which opens up a field of inquiry that does not appear to have hitherto attracted the attention of our local historians and antiquaries. When Mr. Nasmyth, in 1835-6, was about to start his great works at Patricroft, he had no difficulty, he says, in obtaining abundance of skilled workmen in South Lancashire and Cheshire.

From an early period the finest sort of mechanical work has been turned out in that part of England. Much of the talent is inherited. It descends from father to son, and develops itself from generation to generation. I may mention one curious circumstance connected with the pedigree of Manchester: that much of the mechanical excellence of its workmen descends from the Norman smiths and armourers introduced into the neighbourhood at the Norman Conquest by Hugo de Lupus, the chief armourer of William the Conqueror, after the battle of Hastings, in 1060. I was first informed of this circumstance by William Stubbs of Warrington, then maker of the celebrated Lancashire files. The "P.S.," or Peter Stubbs's files, were so vastly superior to other files, both in the superiority of the steel and in the perfection of the cutting, which long retained its efficiency, that every workman rejoiced in the possession and use of such durable tools. I was exceedingly anxious to visit the factory where these admirable files were made. I obtained an introduction to William Stubbs, then head of the firm. When I asked him if I might be favoured with a sight of his factory, he replied that he had no factory, as such. All he had to do in supplying his large warehouse was to serve out the requisite quantities of the pure cast steel as rods and bars to the workmen. They on their part forged the metal into files of every description at their own cottage workshops, principally situated in the neighbouring counties of Cheshire and Lancashire.

This information surprised as well as pleased me. Mr. Stubbs proceeded to give me an account of the origin of this peculiar system of cottage manufacture in his neighbourhood. It appears that Hugo de Lupus, William the Conqueror's Master of Arms, the first Earl of Chester, settled in North Cheshire shortly after the Conquest. He occupied Halton Castle, and his workmen resided in Warrington and the adjacent villages of Appleton,

Widnes, Prescott, and Cuerdley. There they produced coats of steel, mail armour, and steel and iron weapons, under the direct superintendence of their chief. The manufacture thus founded continued many centuries. Although the use of armour was discontinued, these workers in steel and iron still continued famous. The skill that had formerly been employed in forging chain armour and war instruments was directed to more peaceful purposes. The cottage workmen made the best of files, and steel tools of other kinds. Their talents became hereditary, and the manufacture of wire in all its forms is almost peculiar to Warrington and the neighbourhood.

Mr. Stubbs also informed me that most of the workmen's peculiar names for tools and implements were traceable to old Norman-French words. He also stated that at Prescott a peculiar class of workmen has long been established, celebrated for their great skill in clock and watch making; and that, in his opinion, they were the direct descendants of a swarm of workmen from Hugo de Lupus's original Norman hive of refined metal-workers, dating from the time of the Conquest.

Are there confirmatory evidences of these interesting statements? Can any one supply a list of workmen's peculiar names for tools and implements, and enable the assertion that they are "traceable to old Norman-French words" to be tested?

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE.

(Note No. 3,160, June 23.)

[3,165.] Referring to Mr. TALLENT-BATEMAN'S last note, I may mention that "George Lloyd of Manchester, linen draper," was in 1710 owner of a piece of land described as the "south-east corner of a close of land in Manchester called the Acres and bounded on the east by a close called the Plungen Field, on the south by James Clough's garden, on the west by the wall of the new church-yard [St. Anne's], and on the north by a line drawn square with the north of the new church-yard, and from thence to the fence or hedge parting the Acres from the Plungen Field." The above George Lloyd was grandfather of the George Lloyd mentioned in Mr. BATEMAN'S note. All or part of the site of St. Anne's-street (formerly Queen-street), and part of Cross-street (in 1805 and probably afterwards called Red Cross-street), were taken out of the above plot. Can any reader say why the street was called Red Cross-street? B.

QUERIES.

[3,166.] THE WRECK OF THE MINOTAUR.—What was the date of the wreck of the Minotaur? J. M. W. Turner, R.A., painted a picture of the subject about 1807 or 1810, and it was engraved by Cousins and Barlow. I should also like to know off what coast the wreck took place. AN ENQUIRER.

[3,167.] "MOST UNKINDEST" IN SHAKSPEARE. Is it possible that the line in *Julius Caesar*, "This was the most unkindest cut of all," is grammatical, and by what rule? RICHARD A. HUNT.

[Doubled comparatives and superlatives are not uncommon in Shakspeare. Thus we have "more elder," "more better," "thy most worst," "a more larger list of sceptres," "to some more fitter place," and many others. According to the accepted rules of our time, these forms are not allowable, but in other and various respects the differences between Elizabethan and modern English are numerous. The Rev. E. A. Abbott, in his *Shakspearean Grammar* (which students would do well to consult), says that, on a superficial view, "any irregularities whatever, whether in the formation of words or in the combination of words into sentences," appear to have been allowable in Elizabethan English. But it must be remembered, he adds, that "the Elizabethan was a transitional period in the history of the English language. It was an age of experiments, and the experiments were not always successful. But for freedom, for brevity, and for vigour, Elizabethan is superior to modern English." After giving numerous illustrations, he says, "We may perhaps claim some superiority in completeness and perspicuity for modern English, but if we were to appeal on this ground to the shade of Shakspeare in the words of Antonio, in the *Tempest*,—

Do you not hear us speak?

we might fairly be crushed by the reply of Sebastian—

I do; and surely

It is a sleepy language."

Another good book on this subject is the late George L. Craik's *English of Shakspeare*, which had reached a fourth edition in 1869. Mr. Craik took for his text this very play of *Julius Caesar*, his philological commentary upon which occupies three hundred and fifty pages. It is worth while pointing out that these intensified superlatives and comparatives are to be found in the old versions of the Psalms and the authorized translation of the Bible, as well as in Shakspeare. We have, for example, "the most Highest," and "the most straightest sect of our religion." Referring to the lines (*Julius Caesar*, act iii., scene 1):—

We will grace his heels

With the most boldest and best hearts of Rome, Mr. Craik observes that there is nothing intrinsically absurd in such a mode of expression, as "the most boldest" might have been intended to mean those who are boldest among the boldest. All this, it may be said, looks like an apology for Shakspearean forms. But it must be remembered that great writers, and especially

the poets, are the creators of language and of forms of expression: the grammarian is not the law-giver, but merely the follower and recorder, his task being to formulate from the masters the rules of his art. The creators are at work in our time also; and not a few grammarians, following the recognized text-books, would be puzzled to parse scores of passages in the writings of Mr. Browning and Mr. Swinburne.—
EDITOR.]

GLIMPSES OF FAMOUS MEN.

II.

BUCKLE THE HISTORIAN, F. D. MAURICE, AND T. W. ROBERTSON.

During the three years, 1858-59-60, I was a frequenter of the then famous chess resort known as the Divan, in the Strand. This nobly-proportioned room, with its lining of well-stored, dust-covered, book-shelves, its massive decorative moulding, and the stately gloom which a very bad light always cast over it, was more like a club than any other public haunt I remember. It was here that, between the publication of his first and second volumes of the *History of Civilization*, I often sat beside Buckle and marvelled no less at the wonderful ingenuity of his chess-playing than all we young men of the time had marvelled at and been captivated by his great inductive work. In appearance Buckle looked like what he was, the descendant of a long line of prosperous city merchants. To this bourgeois physique he only added one or two slight touches of genius. Although worth £1,500 a year he always wore a shabby hat and he always removed it with both hands. He sat quietly and intently before the chess-board, but he was apt to show signs of impatience if his opponent moved too slowly. Captain Kennedy, the celebrated amateur, tells this story of him. Being asked why he refused to play with a certain very slow player, he replied in his quiet, forcible way: "Well, sir, the slowness of genius is difficult to bear, but the slowness of mediocrity is intolerable."

I had few opportunities of conversation with him, and then only under the privilege of our chess freemasonry. I once asked him, "Would not the inductive system as applied to the writing of history, if carried to its logical conclusion, end in enabling us to write history in advance?" He eyed me curiously, and then smiled and said: "Of course it would, if we knew everything." This ambiguous reply pleased my youthful vanity immensely. If Buckle

had been willing to devote more time to chess he might unquestionably have become the greatest player of his day. As it was, although only an amateur, he, at one time or another, beat in match games all the leading players of his time, including Staunton, Anderssen (who won the Chess Tournament of 1851, which, together with the Great Exhibition, was to contribute to the speedy advent of the millennium), Loewenthal, Bird, Bessel, of Berlin, and St. Amant of Paris. I should say, from personal observation, that Buckle was far too just a man to be intolerant of stupidity, but that he was mercilessly intolerant of conceit. In illustration of this, many stories are told of his chess adventures in France, Germany, and Italy, where he was naturally assumed to be an ordinary English amateur, to whom the local professional champions would greedily offer the odds of a piece and play for the customary stake—equivalent to an English shilling. With rash men who thus took it for granted that they were his superiors, we are told that he played with them as a cat plays with a mouse, until they were fairly puzzled. The next game he would give them the same odds as he had received, and beat them thoroughly and quickly. Then they began to ask themselves who, if not the devil, he was. Another interesting personal trait was that, although money was simply of no consideration to him in the matter, Buckle consistently refused to play for less than a shilling a game. His argument was that everybody plays better if there is something at stake. If he is a poor man, he is stimulated to win the money: if a rich man he receives the tangible tribute of conquest. This is sound common-sense. A good chess-player never refuses to play for a stake on the ground that "the game possesses sufficient interest in itself," and good whist-players avoid the man who "never plays for money on principle." In nine cases out of ten that principle is based upon an objection to lose money, which his experience as a bad player has taught him is the usual result of playing for stakes.

About 1866 I made the acquaintance of a prosperous young tradesman who, having made himself independent of personal attendance to his business, was fired by an intense ambition for literary fame. He had plenty of ability, he was sincere as well as in earnest, and he had frank and winning ways. He published several feeble novels and he contributed to *Fraser's Magazine* under the editorship of J. A.

Froude, but he died before he had discovered his true vocation in the literary world. I incidentally mention him, because he introduced me to a small circle of young men who, like myself, had not yet out-grown some curiosity as to the meaning of life. In a room behind my friend's shop in Oxford-street, London, the Rev. Frederick Denison Maurice, then Professor of Moral Philosophy at Cambridge, met this small circle of young men full, to paraphrase Tennyson, of the faith of honest doubt, and found time, once a week, amidst his multifold engagements, to talk to us, to reason with us, and to set us a splendid example of great attainments and high-breeding. It struck me even at the time that it was singularly generous and disinterested on the part of so distinguished a man to devote a portion of his time to so small and so obscure an audience. In appearance and manner he was every inch an ecclesiastic: gentle and captivating, with the tired, spiritual expression of one who is looking into distance, and an indulgent tone of voice which won immediate confidence. Our subjects were metaphysical rather than theological, and although many of the "posers" put to Maurice were sometimes inspired by ignorance and sometimes by audacity, I never knew him hesitate for his reply, nor manifest the least impatience. I once asked him if it was possible to believe in a God without believing in a future life. The question was a stupid one, but Maurice replied at once that not only was it possible, but that there was a time when he held precisely that belief. I once visited his house and there met the poet Swinburne, who had just published his *Poems and Ballads* which roused such a loud and virtuous outcry from the press as to secure it a sale of many editions. But I refrain from recording impressions made by men still living.

Twenty years ago I was an occasional guest at the weekly Saturday dinners of the Savage Club. They then met at Evans's Hotel in Covent Garden. Of course the Club was then only in its infancy, and its literary element consisted not so much of journalists and authors, as of these ephemera of current literature who write comic copy for comic papers or frivolities for the light magazines. The general conversation during dinner was apt to be a tedious conflict of small wit. The real enjoyment began when the cloth had been removed and the members broke up into small groups, any one of which you might join. The most interesting man I met at these gatherings

was T. W. Robertson, the dramatist. He was a fine, manly, handsome fellow, fond of "causistry," in which you never knew whether he was in jest or in earnest, and specially fond of paradoxes, in the making of which he rivalled W. S. Gilbert. I was greatly attracted to him before he awoke and found himself famous on the morning after the production of *Society* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, and I was struck in this and the subsequent plays with the likeness between the smart dialogue of his characters and his own bright conversation. One of his witty sayings I heard him utter at the Savage Club long before I heard it from the mouth of Mr. Bancroft on the stage. "Poverty," said William Brunton the artist ruefully, "makes us acquainted with strange bedfellows." "Yes," retorted Robertson, "and strange bedfellows make us acquainted with poverty." The pit roared at this daring joke, but it was expunged after the first few nights.

THE ALIZARINE INDUSTRY—Under the auspices of the Manchester section of the Society of Chemical Industry, two lectures have been delivered at the Owens College during the past fortnight by Mr. Ivan Levinstein of this city. In the course of his first lecture, which was delivered on Tuesday week, Mr. Levinstein said that alizarine was, until very recently made only from the root of the madder plant, of which the yearly crop was 70,000 tons, and represented an annual value of £3,150,000, of which the United Kingdom consumed 23,000 tons, representing a value of nearly £1,000,000. A discovery had been made by which it could be produced without madder, and we, of the United Kingdom possess advantages over all other countries for manufacturing it.—1. By having a splendid supply of the raw material anthracene. 2. Cheaper caustic soda in England than in Germany by fully £4 per ton. 3. Cheaper fuel. 4. Large consumption at our own doors. 5. Special facilities for exporting. The advantages derived from the development of the alizarine manufactured here, it was stated will benefit other collateral industries, such as the manufacture of soda, of ordinary fuming sulphuric acid, bichromatic and chlorate of potash, articles used in this manufacture. The second lecture was delivered on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Levinstein said that since the application of artificial alizarine to dyeing and spinning new styles of printing and new methods of dyeing had been created, which accounted to a great extent for the immense increased consumption of the artificial dye. He estimated that a saving to the world at large of more than £5,000,000 a year was effected by the introduction of this artificial dye as contrasted with madder. Alizarine itself was no colouring matter; it only became a dye when combined with certain other compounds, such as alumina. Cloth impregnated with alumina when passed by the lecturer through alizarine was coloured red. As regarded the introduction of artificial alizarine into calico printing, styles could now be produced which formerly were not attempted, and there was a very considerable saving in the cost.

Saturday, July 7, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: VII. FETTER LANE.

[3,168.] The name of this street, like that of many another in our city, has been imported from the metropolis. We owe its introduction to the Moravian Brethren, whose first place of worship in England was opened in Fetter Lane (off Fleet-street), London, on the 10th November, 1742. This little chapel, which still stands and is yet used by the Moravians, was, soon after its opening, much frequented by the early Methodists—including John and Charles Wesley and the Countess of Huntingdon—who afterwards, under the designation of the "Fetter Lane Society," used the chapel for a short time as their regular meeting-place.

By a deed, dated in 1775, Roger Aytoun, Esquire, of Chorlton Hall, granted to James Crabtree, yeoman, of Ashton-under-Lyne, in fee simple on chief rent, a plot of land in Manchester "on the most southerly side of a certain lane or road there called Garratt Lane." There is endorsed on this deed a plan showing the projected sites of certain intended streets, not then formed or named, including Aytoun-street, Mynshull-street, Major-street, Silver-street, and Fetter Lane.

By a deed between the same parties, and dated in 1776, an adjoining plot of land, included in the before-mentioned plan, but not granted by the previous deed, and described as "parcel of a certain close or field there called Great Fish Pond," was conveyed to the same James Crabtree in fee simple, also upon chief rent. This Mr. James Crabtree was associated with the Moravians, being a member of their congregation at Dukinfield. One of his daughters, Susannah, was married to the Rev. John Antes, a Moravian minister. Among other buildings erected by Mr. Crabtree, in pursuance of his building covenants with Squire Aytoun, was a chapel or meeting-house, intended for the use of the Brethren, and fronting one of the before-mentioned then unnamed streets running through his property. To this street he gave the name of "Fetter Lane," in honour of the London establishment of his church, and doubtless in compliment to his pastor, the Rev. B. La Trobe (then stationed at Dukinfield), who had previously resided in Fetter Lane, London. Mr. Crabtree let or leased his chapel to trustees for the Moravian Brethren; and by a codicil (dated in 1785) to his will, dated in 1784, he empowered his will trustees (John Lees,

of Clark's Fields, near Oldham, merchant, and John Salter and John Kelsall, both of Dukinfield, linen manufacturers—all, I believe, Moravians), "to grant a lease to the Rev. Benjamin La Trobe, for the term of 999 years, of the little room of the building in Fetter Lane used as a Preaching Place by the Brethren of the said Benjamin La Trobe; yielding and paying the sum of 20s. a year for the same, towards repairing the room and floors of the before-mentioned buildings; the said Benjamin La Trobe doing all other necessary repairs." The worthy testator also authorized his trustees, "if the said Benjamin La Trobe should find it necessary to erect a meeting-house in some other part of Manchester, before the final division of his (testator's) estates, . . . to pay the aforesaid Benjamin La Trobe the sum of £50 towards the cost and expense of erecting the same, upon condition that the said Benjamin La Trobe rendered up the lease of the preaching-place in Fetter Lane before-mentioned to Testator's Trustees for the benefit of his successors."

I have elsewhere in the *City News* given a short history of the little chapel founded by Crabtree, and explained the cause of its extinction.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: RED CROSS-STREET.

(No. 3,166, June 30.)

[3,169.] Cross-street was most likely, almost certainly, called "Red Cross-street," in imitation of the London street of that name, known to many as the locality of Dr. Williams's celebrated library containing the registry of so many Dissenting families. The names Piccadilly, Cheapside, Pall Mall, Lad Lane, Ludgate Hill, Fleet-street, Bloomsbury, all occur in Manchester, and perhaps other well-known London names. There are nineteen "Cross streets" recorded in the *Manchester Directory*, but not now a "Red Cross-street." It would be a sensible alteration if the old name of the central "Cross-street" were resumed. No doubt mistakes occur not infrequently through the Post Office which would be in future avoided.

F. W. H.

THE MAYOR OF ALTRINCHAM.

(Nos. 3,115 and 3,128.)

[3,170.] In the issue of May 12 I replied to an inquirer's question about the Mayor of Altrincham. After giving a brief account of the office, and pointing out that it is a manorial and not a municipal

mayoralty, I remarked that a local board was established for the township in 1851, but that "the manorial mayor is still extant. What his precise duties are, I cannot say. Perhaps," I added, "one of the numerous ex-mayors will give information on this point"—an invitation or challenge which has met with no response. A few years ago Sir Charles Dilke obtained the appointment of a royal commission to inquire into the state of the so-called unreformed corporations of the country. A good deal of curious evidence was collected. Looking over my papers the other day I came across the Commissioners' report on Altrincham, and as it bears on the query and note which have already appeared, and otherwise embodies information which is little known, perhaps it would be worth reproducing and placing on permanent record in the Manchester Notes and Queries. Even the ex-mayors to whom I appealed could hardly give a more minute account of the Altrincham mayoralty, its history, jurisdiction, and powers. The Commissioners say:—

The report of 1835 [referring to the Municipal Corporations inquiry of that year] in regard to Altrincham, is stated to have been correct. But the rents and profits of the lands mentioned in the former report as having been at the disposal of the mayor of the borough are now dealt with in a different way. The property, which was originally given to the mayor of Altrincham, consisted of three small estates, part of the waste grounds of Altrincham. These were Thorley Moor, Seamon's Moss, and Hale Moss. The Thorley Moor and Seamon's Moss property was demised by the Earl of Warrington in the year 1699 for 5,000 years, to the then mayor of Altrincham and his successors. The Hale Moss was demised by the said Earl in the year 1716 for a term of the same duration to the then mayor and his successors. A yearly rent of 1s. is reserved by each lease; and the object of these leases is described to be "for the better defraying the charges and expenses which the mayor and his successors for the time being are likely to be at during their mayoralty." Some difficulty of dealing with the property having occurred, it was thought most desirable that it should be managed under the sanction of the Charity Commissioners, and accordingly in the year 1864 a scheme was prepared, by virtue of which, the property became vested in the mayor and six other gentlemen as trustees under an order of the Commissioners. In the year 1867 the trustees exchanged their interest in Thorley Moor for freehold chief rents amounting to £150 a year. The Seamon's Moss is leased for fourteen years from the 2nd February, 1872, at a rent of £36 a year. In the year 1875 a portion of the Hale Moss land was sold, creating thereout a chief rent of £55. The remaining portion is in hand, and is cultivated by the mayor for the time being. The gross revenue of the whole property is £241 a year. There has been, however, under the terms of the scheme, a large outlay for the improvement of the property, and in consequence of this it is

not probable that the balance handed over to the mayor during the next two years will exceed £190. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington, who is lord of the manor of the borough of Altrincham, annually appoints the mayor at one of his Courts leet, and the net balance of income of the property (which is collected by the agents of the trustees) is handed by them to the mayor, whose practice has been to pay out of it for two dinners and two luncheons in each year to the leet jury, consisting of twenty, the two constables and the officer of the court, the steward, and two or three of Lord Stamford's officials. The dinners cost about £80 a year, and the luncheons from £20 to £30. If there is any surplus it has been usually applied by the mayor to some useful public purpose in the town. The mayor does not consider himself called upon to render any account of his own expenditure; but it is the duty of the trustees to transmit an account to the Charity Commissioners if asked for. No application has been made for some time past by the Commissioners for such an account. Formerly the leet jury amerced persons for trespass or encroachment, but now they discharge no duties. The mayor has never claimed any right to act as a justice or to grant licences, and he has no seal, although there exists an old charter by virtue of which he is appointed. This does not appear to us, strictly speaking, to be a municipal corporation. But as it was reported on in 1835, we have thought it right to notice briefly the change which has taken place in the disposal of the property mentioned in that report as having been granted to the mayor.

ION.

QUERIES.

[3,171.] POINT BLANK.—What is the origin of the expression "point blank?" N. B.

[3,172.] INITIALS.—What is the meaning of L.D.S. and A.M.D.G., often attached to Roman Catholic announcements? H. T. T.

[3,173.] APPLEBY'S POEMS.—Some ten years ago a small volume of poems by a Mr. Appleby, a local man, I believe, was published, and was reviewed in one or more papers. Is this in print yet? I have endeavoured to procure a copy, but have been unsuccessful. Any information about this volume and its author would oblige. CIRC.

A SEARCH FOR PHARAOH'S RED SEA CHARIOTS. Marseilles will presently see pass through her city the members of a singular expedition. There has been organized at Paris, under the direction of the learned Abbé Moigno, the founder of the Cosmo, a society having for its object the dragging of the bottom of the Red Sea and the Bitter Lakes to find the chariots and treasures of the army of Pharaoh, supposed to be at the bottom of these waters covered by saline deposits. A sum of 750,000 francs has been subscribed for the expense. Divers will search the Red Sea and the Bitter Lakes to discover the arms, the armour, and the precious stones that were in possession of the Egyptians when they were engulfed.

Saturday, July 14, 1883.

NOTES.

THE MISSING COUCHER BOOK OR REGISTER OF
FURNESS ABBEY.

[3,174.] The newly-published volumes of the Record Society mention a discovery which demands and may possibly reward the urgent attention of Lancashire antiquaries. The Deputy Keeper of the Records, in his Thirty-sixth Report, referring to the Furness Coucher or Chartulary which is in the national collection, says, "A belief prevails that another volume or chartulary once existed in the Duchy of Lancaster Office. There can be little doubt that a second volume was compiled, as a very large amount of the charters are not to be found in the existing volume, whilst they are indorsed with a distinctive numeral in ancient character, indicative of their having been somewhere entered. Moreover, in the Dodsworth collection of manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford will be found a reference to 'notes out of two registers of the House of Furness, in the office of the Duchy of Lancaster.' It may be well to state here distinctly that at no time apparently since 1752, and certainly not within living memory, has any such second volume existed in the office of the Duchy of Lancaster."

This missing volume has been discovered, it appears, among the manuscripts of the Hamilton Library, and is thus described in the *Athenæum* of November 11, 1882:—

Furness Abbey: Registrum cartarum et Scriptorum Monasterii Sanctæ Mariæ de Furness, A.D. 1412, per Venerabilem Willelmum Dalton Abbatem, a most important and valuable volume. It is beautifully written on vellum, and has sixty-eight emblazoned coats of arms of the abbots of Furness, the benefactors of the abbey, and other eminent persons, and is altogether one of the most sumptuous volumes of the kind ever compiled. On the fly-leaf is a poem of sixteen lines, stating that the second part of the Register of Furness Abbey was compiled by William Dalton, the abbot, and that John Stell was the scribe. One line makes the following curious assertion with regard to the penmanship:—"Hunc John Stell digitus monachus scripsit sine penna."

In the Literary Table-talk of the *Manchester City News* of the same date (November 11, 1882) it was recorded that the whole of the Hamilton manuscripts had been purchased by the German Government for £90,000, Mr. Ruskin, it may be remembered, made an appeal to the public to enable him to purchase some of the Duke's MSS. for the nation, but the response

to the appeal was wholly inadequate. Mr. Walford D. Selby, the editor of the Record Society's new volumes, remarks that it is with little satisfaction he reports the tardy identification of the second Furness Coucher as it must go to Germany [has probably already gone there], "unless by a graceful act on the part of its present owners it should be restored to its proper place among the records of Her Majesty's Duchy of Lancaster."

As a fragment of the documentary history of Lancashire—to say nothing of its value in relation to the general history of the monasteries of England—this volume is simply priceless. My object is to suggest that some effort should be made with a view to its recovery by the literary, historic, and publishing societies of Lancashire, either by approaching the German Government through the German Ambassador in London, or by a representation to the Chancellor of the Duchy, to whom the restoration of the precious manuscript will surely be a matter of more than merely official interest.

EDITOR.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

INITIALS.

(Query No. 3,172, July 7.)

[3,175.] L.D.S. means *Laus Deo semper*, i.e., "Praise be to God always;" A.M.D.G. means *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*, i.e., "To the greater glory of God." The latter is the motto of the Society of Jesus.

C. H. C.

* * *

L.D.S.—*Laus Deo semper*. A.M.D.G.—*Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*. In the cross-examination of the "Claimant" about Stonyhurst he was asked, it may be remembered, to translate the first of these sentences, and rendered it, "the laws of God for ever," but when the people laughed he added, "or always."

R. H. A.

POINT-BLANK.

(Query No. 3,171, July 7.)

[3,176.] Dr. Brewer, in his *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*, gives the following:—

POINT-BLANK. Direct. A term used in gunnery; when a cannon is so placed that the line of sight is parallel to the axis and horizontal, the discharge is point-blank, and is supposed to go direct to the object without a curve. In French "point blanc" is the white mark or bull's eye of a target, to hit which the ball or arrow must not deviate in the least from the exact path. "Now thou art within point-blank of our jurisdiction regal."—2 Henry VI., iv. 7.

G. E. OLDHAM.

QUERIES.

[3,177.] **ON FOOT TO LONDON.**—What is the best route to take for a walk from Manchester to London, giving an outline of the towns or villages about twenty-five miles apart for daily stages, shunning the Black Country?
VERDUS.

[3,178.] **"BACHELOUR" AS APPLIED TO A WOMAN.** What is the meaning of the term "bachelor" as applied to the gentler sex in the following extract from an inscription in Prestbury Churchyard?—"Alsoe Sarah Pickford, sister to the abovesaid James Pickford, was here Interred August y^e 17 Anno Dom. 1705, and died a Bachelor in the 48 yeare of her age."
ONEZ.

GLIMPSES OF FAMOUS MEN.

III.

CHARLES DICKENS; BULWER LYTTON; JAMES HINTON.

Literary and artistic London is full of coteries, and many pleasant "At Homes" in Bloomsbury, Regent's Park, and latterly in Kensington, are open to those whose affinities are with journalists and authors. Apart from their social enjoyment, these parties serve as a useful, friendly, and unofficial means of intercourse between publishers and writers, playwrights who are also critics, and critics who are also playwrights, kindly old veterans and timid young recruits. Working in the enforced obscurity of the anonymous system, even overworked pressmen find it in their interest to appeal now and then directly to the public and to "the trade in general," by publishing a novel, a poem, or a book of travel. An excellent argument in favour of anonymity in the press may thus be adduced. The brilliant series of novels by William Black or Besant and Rice, were originally the outcome of a natural impatience for recognition, rising superior even to the drudgery of daily press work. A fine theory of selection is thus put in operation, for only genius is capable of such industry.

In the spring of 1869 I accompanied a friend to a literary gathering at the house of a well-known journalist in the vicinity of Russell Square. The most notable of the guests was Charles Dickens, who, in spite of a recent illness which had compelled him to abandon a series of readings, was wonderfully merry, buoyant, and vigorous. At that time everybody was absorbed in the celebrated Saurin trial, in

which a nun, Miss Saurin, brought an action against her Lady Superior for false imprisonment for libel, and for the recovery of her money. Dickens entered with great vivacity into the discussion. He pointed out the singular fact of a quarrel amongst Catholics being settled by a Protestant judge and jury, but he could not sympathize with a woman who wanted to continue to be a nun. This was rather a shallow contribution to the subject, because, seeing that unquestioning obedience and poverty was one of the conditions upon which Miss Saurin took the veil, she was clearly wrong in wanting to remain a nun, exempt from the privations. But Dickens did not give one time to think. His vitality, his animal spirits, and his quick, bright looks carried everything before them. He was by no means a sayer of good things, nor, indeed, was his conversation as good as one might have expected, to judge from his admirable letters, since published. But his freshness, cordiality, evident sense of enjoyment, and acute and perennial humour filled the room, and, although he did not utter a single noteworthy thought, when he went away he left behind him a great blank in the company. Men who were not, as I was, immensely prepossessed in his favour, were apt to put an ill-natured interpretation upon Dickens's natural gaiety and exuberance, and to ascribe them to want of ease, a deep self-consciousness, or a fear of being neglected. Yet considering the amount of adulation lavished upon him from the very outset, he remained wonderfully unspoiled.

It is impossible to conceive two men more unlike each other in mind, person, and manner than Dickens and his close friend of many years' standing, Bulwer Lytton. In 1866 I became accidentally acquainted with Bulwer Lytton through staying at the St. Anne's Hotel with him at Buxton. He led a retired life and took his meals in private, but after dinner, towards nine o'clock, he would come and have his cigar in the smoke-room. He had a sad, worn, almost forbidding look; he was conspicuously reserved for so polished a man of the world, and one who had lived in embassies, and the two conversations I had with him were only brought about in consequence of a small service which, as a young man to an invalid, I was able to render him. My recollection of these conversations is shadowy. He was curious to hear some strange stories connected with the Overend-Gurney failure and the commercial panic which it brought about. Another topic of the day was the Eyre

Defence Fund. Carlyle had just announced, in a characteristic letter, his willingness to join the committee, and Bulwer seemed to derive a saturnine joy from the old seer's autocratic manifesto. The only literary opinion, I remember, of Bulwer's is that he could not allow that Landor was a poet. He was only a sculptor. But he spoke of the *Imaginary Conversations* as a perfect monument of learning, and this was a new light to one unlearned in the dead languages. Bulwer Lytton stooped in his walk, and his face was covered with grizzly hair. At a distance he looked like a Jew pen-hawker. No trace of the old handsome beauty of face of his early portraits remained. Although reserved, he spoke excitedly on any subject in which he was deeply interested. But his general conversation was cynically discursive. Briefly, then, Bulwer Lytton was not an engaging man to meet thus casually; he was an invalid scholar torn from his library; he was proud, self-absorbed, and, I should say, like Carlyle, "gay ill to live wi'."

The most interesting man whom I met with in London, from 1860 to 1870, was James Hinton, who was as well known in the metaphysical world as Locke or Berkeley, though his remarkable contributions to literature and science were not of a kind to make his name popular. Within the decade in question, Hinton emerged from an obscure surgical practice in the city to become the head of the aural branch of his profession in the kingdom, while his first published work, *Man and His Dwelling Place*, put him at once on a footing of equality with the leading thinkers of the day. I was thrown a great deal into Hinton's society and domestic circle during all these years; I knew him equally intimately when he was earning a precarious income by his pen, and when a few years later he was making £5,000 a year as a Savile Row specialist; and while the man himself is well worth being introduced for his own sake, the briefest account of him must necessarily entail many more or less interesting references to the distinguished men with whom he associated.

Hinton was a man of ardent genius. He had at once the imagination of a poet, a rare and quite unconscious gift of expression, and a passion for thinking which slowly but surely wasted and killed him. It was after the publication and the success of his first book, already named, that Hinton decided to abandon his slender practice and devote himself to literature. Dr. (now Sir William) Gull had publication, but Messrs. Parker took the risk them-

offered to be responsible for half the cost of its selves. It came out anonymously, and was variously ascribed to Whewell, Vaughan, Kingsley, Whateley, and others. About 1860 he removed to a small cottage at Tottenham, near London, and his first commission was from Thackeray, then editor of the *Cornhill*, who accepted for the *Cornhill* a series of articles called "Physiological Riddles." "Whatever else this fellow can do," said Thackeray, "he can write." Yet I remember Hinton rebuking me one day for congratulating him on his style, as if it were too paltry a thing to mention. In 1863, the governing body of Guy's Hospital created the office of aural surgeon to the institution, on purpose to secure him on the medical staff. He then removed to London, and knew poverty no more. But to him, the sacrifice of locking up his MSS. and devoting himself wholly to his profession was far greater than any sacrifice which poverty could bring. Indeed he inherited a certain vein of asceticism from a long line of Calvinistic ancestors, and he once said that he never felt quite at his ease, unless he were a little bit uncomfortable. In 1874, Hinton relinquished his lucrative practice, as a matter of duty, and in order to devote himself to great objects of good to humanity. He was only a little over fifty, but he had already injured his brain by over-work, and he died a year later.

Hinton was the only really brilliant talker that I have ever listened to. Neither Coleridge, Carlyle, nor Macaulay could possibly have excelled his rare felicity, fire, clearness, and beauty of illustration. I have seen, at different times, Herbert Spencer, Alfred Tennyson, Professor Tyndall, and many other distinguished men, button-holed by him, so to speak, in a corner of his own spacious drawing-room, and listening with rapt attention to his persuasive tongue.

PURGATORY MASSES.—A bequest to pay masses for souls in purgatory has just been declared an invalid trust by Judge Freedman in New York City. Like trusts are void at English law under a statute which condemns them as superstitiousness, but the decision just reached in New York turns on that ground the necessary condition of a trust, "one to whose benefit the trust is held," does not exist. "The beneficiaries," says Judge Freedman, with legal precision, "are both dead and beyond the reach of human law. Their souls are intended as beneficiaries, but the soul of one who has departed this life is incapable of taking an interest in the property left behind."

Saturday, July 21, 1883.

NOTES.

JAMES BUTTERWORTH.

[3,179.] As a contribution to the Butterworth memoranda which appeared some months ago, I send the following extracts copied from a manuscript book which once belonged to the local historian, James Butterworth. The entries are in James Butterworth's own handwriting. One of these, an autobiography, covers two pages still preserved, but originally extended over seven or eight leaves more, which have evidently been torn or cut out. What information these leaves contained will probably never be discovered. The entry is headed:—"Memoirs of James Butterworth, of Alt, in the parish of Ashton-under-Line, Lancashire. Written by himself;" and proceeds:—

I was born at a place called Pitses, in the hamlet of Alt and parish of Ashton-under-Line, on the 28th day of August in the year 1771. My father's name was James Butterworth. He was of a branch of the family of the Butterworths of Royton, in the parish of Oldham, in the county of Lancaster. My mother's maiden name was Jane Ogden, the daughter of Nehemiah Ogden, of Loeside, in the aforesaid parish. I was the youngest of eleven children, and my parents had no other means of supporting this numerous progeny but what honest industry afforded them. However, while I was yet very young, I was sent to a school in the neighbourhood, where, under the care of my master (Mr. John Taylor of Alt, a worthy man), I learned to read and write the mother tongue, and whether my master saw I was more assiduous at my task or not I cannot tell, or it might be from some other motive, but be it what it would, he sometimes was called for some short space of time from his employ to attend to some domestic concern or some other business in the house, while I was generally called upon to instruct the younger classes in the school. Seeing the school thus intrusted to me I was fired by ambition always to excel my class-fellows, and to attain some share of the learning my master I found was possessed of, I begun to be fond of reading and amused myself when at home in reading most.

Here this record ends. With this book are two loose sheets covered with entries referring to his children. The following is a copy of the more complete list:—

James Butterworth, born August 28, 1771.

Hannah Butterworth, Royton, born May 24, 1773.

THEIR CHILDREN.

1. James Butterworth, born Sept. 19, 1793; died in the night between the 15th and 16th of Oct., 1794.
2. James Butterworth, born August 24, 1795.
3. Hiram Butterworth, born June 14, 1797.
4. Jane Butterworth, born Feb. 17, 1799; died Oct. 26, 1809, about seven o'clock in the morning.

5. Betty Butterworth, born March 12, 1802; died Jan. 17, 1818.
6. Alfred Butterworth, born Feb. 5, 1804; died April 30, 1804, in the morning.
7. Mary Butterworth, born May 11, 1805, about eight o'clock in the evening; died June 17, 1806, about eleven o'clock at night.
8. Mary Butterworth, born Sept. 8, 1807, about half-past four o'clock in the morning; died Nov. 5, 1809, about half-past four in the evening.
9. Jane Mary, born December 4, 1809, about fifteen minutes past four in the morning; died in 1810.
10. Edwin Butterworth, born Oct. 1, 1812, about half-past two in the morning.
11. James Butterworth, jun., who was born Aug. 24, 1795; died May 20, 1837.

The Butterworth family, no doubt, originally sprang from Butterworth. A branch of it spread out to Royton about the beginning of the eighteenth century. Of this branch was John Butterworth, the mathematician, born 1774, died 1845. It will be noticed that James Butterworth's mother was an Ogden of Loeside, probably a member of the ancient family whose estate at Swineclough adjoined Loeside. This is the first mention I have seen of John Taylor of Alt, schoolmaster. From another entry at the end of this book "3d. is allowed to John Taylor for buying every book." Probably this referred to some library or book club carried on by Taylor and his quondam pupil and others. The Word of the Lord was indeed precious in those days; there was no open vision. The means of education and information were scant and sealed, and the power of purchasing them by the common people dried up. Besides these entries are a number of poetical fragments dotted here and there in various parts of the book. The first of these is on a "Thunder Storm." Then follows one which seems to have been written by him under bereavement, containing the following two lines:—

But in that place where rest the souls of upright men,
With longing arms I hope to press my child again.

Then comes an attempt at blank verse, beginning:—

Laid in the grave by famed Beersheba,
Great Israel's Father closed his eyes to sleep.

Then comes a sort of essay or short treatise on the "Prophecies, Types, and Figures of Christ contained in the Old Testament," in which he says:—

As I profess myself a soldier under the banner of the bloody Cross [here follows a sign of the cross] it shall by my endeavour to point out some of those [types and figures] which I have noticed in reading the Old Testament, for I shall believe myself amply rewarded (wretched sinner as I am) if I can with all my pains and prayers in this miserable world merit a place with the crucified Jesus in his Father's kingdom, and that I may,

O, Saviour of the world! O ever blessed! ever adored Jesus! is my prayer now and evermore.

JAMES BUTTERWORTH.

Pitts, Nov. 28, anno Christi, 1794.

This may, no doubt, be taken as a written confession of faith on the part of James Butterworth. It is not for people to find fault with, or be hypercritical about, small matters. Perhaps James Butterworth was as orthodox as the Church Prayer Book, and when he wished to "merit" a place it might be through another's merit. After this comes the Autobiography already noticed. Butterworth's most ambitious attempt in this book seems to have been "a tragedy in three acts," entitled the "Fall of Marat." It extends to three scenes, and then the remaining leaves are cut off, so whether ever finished does not appear.

There is an entry at the end of the book showing the transition between the ages of wool and cotton. The old appliances which had been used for manufacturing wool, ungainly though they were as compared with the improved means then coming into use for manufacturing cotton, were evidently still in use in Butterworth's house, and so we find in his handwriting:—"April 30th, 1794. Brought work from Mr. Jonh. Andrew. One warp, 3lbs. 8oz. Cotton, 10lbs. 8oz. In hand, 19lbs. 6oz." Which means that Butterworth had a warp given out by Mr. Andrews weighing 3lbs. 8oz. to make into a piece (probably of fustian), and that he had his 10lbs. 8oz. of cotton to card and spin, probably by hand. No wonder at Butterworth being poor, especially when we consider that he was at this time married and had at least a wife and one child to support. It is perhaps owing to the change in the staple trade of this neighbourhood that Butterworth became a local historian. Such were the rapid improvements in machinery that Butterworth would soon find manual carding and spinning entirely played out; and, like many of his neighbours, he would either have to adopt the new order of things and become a cotton operative, or change his business altogether. So far as I know, Butterworth never entered into the factory system in any way. It was not long after this time that Butterworth published his first literary effort. Most of his works were necessarily dedicated, and it is but too evident that for the most part he henceforward lived by his pen. I confess to some emotion when I read in the preface to his History of Oldham his allusions to the "black and mouldy crust of poverty," and

even to procure this bare subsistence," "the long scorching summer's sun beheld his daily labours and the taper of diligence twinkled in the midnight hours."

It is to be regretted that the book from which these entries are taken is so mutilated. There is mention of "James Lees," probably of Clarksfield, from whom Butterworth took weaving about the year 1794. These notices give one an opportunity of filling in the inner life of our local history. This was the year 1794. It had been the French revolution the year before. Perhaps never was there a period in English history when the foundations of the earth were so much out of course. A war was going on with France—England was isolated. Ireland, then as now, was a great blister on the body politic. Pitt was disconcerted, distracted. The counsels of the nation were divided. The arrows of God, famine and war, were scattered over Europe. What a picture of this neighbourhood we have, drawn by one of Butterworth's neighbours. These were called the "first barley times." Dr. Daniel Nield was a surgeon living at Lees. The general distress perplexed him, or rather blinded him. He laid down a plan for augmenting the price of manual labour, notwithstanding the fact that machinery was daily doing away with work which had been performed by hand up to that time ever since the world was made. In thirty months he tells us that the price for making a woollen piece had been reduced 19s. 4d. Meetings of workpeople were being held in the Saddleworth Hills. Listen to Daniel's address to the yeomanry of Saddleworth in 1794-5:—

Gentlemen,—A great number of your tenants have been broke up to pay their rents. There are in your parish, gentlemen, a great number of families where father, mother, and four or five children are obliged to sleep altogether, and what they lie on consists generally of a chaff bed, two old worn-out blankets, and frequently an old pack-sheet answers for a coverlet. I have visited patients where the bed has not contained a sheet of any kind, and several poor women in child-bearing that must have been put to bed without shift had it not been for the humanity of some of their neighbours; and instead of having what was necessary on such occasions, all the food of any kind that was in their houses consisted of a small quantity of oatbread, some treacle, and a little oatmeal; several times only a few potatoes and a cake or two of oatbread. A short time since I attended a man in a putrid fever, whose shirt, bedding, and everything else about him were not worth five shillings; yet his wife and three children had to sleep with him! How common has it been, during the last severe winter, to see children of every age between two and twelve go without shoes or stockings, and scarcely anything to keep their tender

bodies from the inclemency of the season, while their faces but too well bespeak their mode of living. Gentlemen, the preceding description of the state of your fellow-creatures is but too true, for whom you are now paying poor-rates three times as great as you were three years ago.

Perhaps neither Dr. Nield nor Butterworth understood the times in which they lived. The doctor probably sowed seeds of dissension which culminated in the Luddite riots many years after; while poor Butterworth, in enduring the pangs of poverty, was content for his privations to be merely guessed at. Badly off as he must have been, perhaps if we rightly read his "Fall of Marat," written at this time, he would seem to have thought that there were others in the world a great deal worse off than he.

The memoranda contained in this old scrap-book are many of them little more than literary drivel. Poor Butterworth's muse was evidently in labour. As a poet James Butterworth did not succeed, but, learning to sing in a lower key, he became a most voluminous local historian. As regards Oldham, if he did not lay the foundation for its local history he at least turned the sod, and his son, Edwin Butterworth, laid the foundation for him. Besides the History of Oldham there are many other local histories bearing his name; and he was, moreover, the recognized assistant of Baines, our greatest county historian.

PHILANDER.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ON FOOT TO LONDON.

(Query No. 3,177, July 14.)

[3,180.] The following are particulars of a tramp to London, which I had the pleasure of doing in September, 1882:—

	Miles.
Monday.....From Wilmslow, through Alderley, Capesthorpe, Siddington, Gaws- worth, Rudyard, Leek, say.....	23
Tuesday . . .Leek, Alton Towers, Uttoxeter	20
Wednesday..Uttoxeter, Bagot's Wood, to Lichfield	20
Thursday ...Lichfield, Coleshill, Kenilworth	28
Friday .....Kenilworth, Guy's Cliff, Leamington, Warwick, Chalcote Park, Stratford- on-Avon	18
Saturday ...Stratford, Easington, Edge Hill, Rad- way Round Tower, Banbury	24
Sunday .....Banbury, Woodstock, Oxford.....	24
Monday.....Oxford, Chiltern Hills, High Wycombe	22
Tuesday ...High Wycombe, Hughenden, Windsor	24
Wednesday..Windsor, Stoke Poges, Hounslow Heath, Richmond.....	20
Total miles.....	223

Warwick Castle is usually closed after eleven a.m.; Windsor Castle is closed every Wednesday. The last day's walk, from Windsor round to Hounslow, is not very attractive. Stoke Poges churchyard, the scene of Grey's Elegy, should not, however, be missed. It lies about four miles from Windsor.

W. H. P.

* * *

As I believe I have said before, the best way is to get a map and choose your own route. This journey, lying through the very heart of England, teems with interesting places; all cannot be seen, and it is far better for each to make his own selection. VERDUS does not say whether he wants a direct route, or whether distance is only a secondary consideration.

The direct routes chiefly chosen by bicyclists are Manchester, Macclesfield, Leek, Ashbourne, Derby, Loughborough, Leicester, Market Harborough, Kettering, Higham Ferrars, Bedford, Shefford, Hitchin, Hatfield, Barnet, and London. This route can be varied by going to Derby by Buxton, Bakewell, and Matlock, and from Market Harborough by Northampton, Newport Pagnel, Woburn, Dunstable, and St. Albans. These are the most direct routes, and as such cannot be improved.

The most attractive places between Manchester and London are Derbyshire, Warwickshire, and Oxford; and if time and distance are only secondary matters, I should advise VERDUS to go by these. Go to Derby by either of the routes given; then on by Burton and Lichfield; then direct to Coventry, or round by Birmingham, whichever suits the best; then by Kenilworth, Warwick, Stratford, Shipston, and Woodstock, to Oxford. The direct route from here is by High Wycombe, Beaconsfield, and Uxbridge; but if time allows, I would advise VERDUS to go down the Valley of the Thames, keeping as near the river as possible, say by Wallingford, Reading, Henley, Marlow, Maidenhead, and Windsor.

I should not advise VERDUS to start with any cut-and-dried route, but be sure and have a good map, on as large a scale as possible, and settle the route from day to day. I have ridden to or from London six times by bicycle, and the latter recommended route is an amalgam of some of the ways chosen. If VERDUS is already acquainted, or makes himself thoroughly acquainted beforehand, with the places of interest in the towns I have mentioned, he will have a holiday such as is rarely spent.

W. BINNS.

QUERIES.

[3,181.] TRICYCLE ROUTE TO COVENTRY.—What are the distances and best road for a tricycle from Manchester to Coventry? J. S.

[3,182.] TRICYCLE ROUTE TO BLACKPOOL.—What is the best route to Blackpool by road on the tricycle, and how long would it take to go? G. T. A.

[3,183.] "AW'LL NE'ER PAWN MY FIDDLE."—Will any reader kindly give information about a familiar Lancashire song of thirty or forty years ago, having the refrain—

Aw'll ne'er pawn my fiddle
To buy my wife a gown.

Where can a copy of the words and music be obtained? G. C., JUNIOR.

WORDSWORTH'S "PULSE OF THE MACHINE."—The lines in the beautiful poem beginning "She was a Phantom of delight," which have proved such a trial to the admirers of Wordsworth, namely:—

"And now I see with eye serene
The very pulse of the machine,"

are thus referred to by Professor Knight in his new edition of the poet's works:—"The use of the word *machine* has been much criticized. For a similar use of the term see the sequel to *The Waygoner* :—

'Forgive me then; for I had been
On friendly terms with this Machine.'

The progress of mechanical industry in Britain since the beginning of the present century has given a more limited and purely technical meaning to the word than it bore when Wordsworth used it in these two instances."

Professor Edward Dowden, commenting upon the same lines in the *Academy*, says:—"I do not know whether the suggestion has been thrown out (which I throw out very timidly) that Wordsworth may have used the word here in the sense defined by Johnson:—'*Machine*, supernatural agency in poetry.' Bossu gives us a chapter in his treatise on epic poetry—'Quand il faut user de machines.' 'Eneas,' says Dryden, 'knew nothing of the machine of Somnus.' Can it be that Wordsworth chooses the word under the influence of its associations with the supernatural? In stanza 1 the Phantom, the lovely Apparition, is sent, as if from some superhuman power,

'To haunt, to startle, and waylay.'

In stanza 2 the Spirit is found to be a woman by all the sweet visible tokens of womanhood; but the secret of her being is not yet touched. In the third stanza the identification of spirit and woman is completed, and the inner law of her being is discovered. The machine has a pulse, the supernatural agent has a human heart and conscience! I disbelieve in far-fetched interpretations of poetry; and if this be far-fetched, let it be dismissed."

Saturday, July 28, 1883.

NOTE.

THE CHATTERTON PORTRAIT IN THE PEEL PARK MUSEUM.

[3,184.] It is very likely that many readers will have seen the article on Chatterton and his Associates contributed by Mr. John H. Ingram to this month's issue of *Harper's Magazine*, and will probably have felt especially interested in the short note, presumably editorial, which is appended to that communication, and which runs as follows:—"It is questionable whether any authentic portrait of the boy-poet exists. The likeness commonly supposed to be his, and published as such in Dix's *Life of Chatterton*, in 1837, is now considered to be that of another lad, contemporary with him at Bristol. A portrait called by his name is in the museum at Salford, and was shown as his at the South Kensington Loan Exhibition of 1867. It is attributed to Hogarth, who died when Chatterton was but twelve years old, and probably had nothing to do with this so-called Chatterton portrait. There is a print said to be 'from a picture belonging to his sister,' but its authenticity does not seem fully established." In reference to this note, Mr. Ingram writes to the *Athenæum* of July 7th: "Appended to my paper on Chatterton, in this month's *Harper's Monthly Magazine*, is a 'note,' for which I am not answerable, respecting the poet's portraits. The information given in the 'note' is neither correct nor complete, nor is it in accordance with my opinions."

This affords a welcome opportunity for a few plain statements, chiefly in reference to the Salford portrait. In 1853 the late Alderman Thomas Agnew presented the Peel Park Museum with a large number of paintings, among them being this one in question. Mr. Agnew had purchased it at some sale, but it was forgotten where, and although every inquiry has been made to trace its history, nothing is known about it prior to its coming into the donor's possession, and it is only a matter of speculation as to whom it represents, and by whom it was painted. Influenced perhaps by a consensus of opinion, and by his own belief, Mr. Agnew decided that it was a portrait of Chatterton, and because it had something of his style of treatment, especially in the lower portion of the face, it was considered to be a production of Hogarth. But, as it is stated in the foregoing extract from *Harper*, Hogarth died before Chatterton had

quite completed his twelfth year, whereas the subject of the portrait, as most people would say, must have been nearer seventeen. Still, while the Hogarth theory is generally abandoned as unlikely, the belief that Chatterton is the subject meets with more credence. It bears a marked likeness to other portraits supposed, though not positively known, to represent him. The time in which it was painted must, to judge from the appearance of the canvas, have been about the period in which he lived. Whoever he may be, he has not only the expression of genius, but the air, and apparently wears the dress of one in Chatterton's lowly circumstances. The full face, and particularly the large mouth, correspond with the descriptions given of him by those who knew him well. Certainly, if it is not Chatterton's portrait, its likeness to all that is known of his appearance is somewhat remarkable.

It would seem as if the probabilities of identifying the artist are almost hopeless. Two letters, written in 1880 by Mr. Frederic J. Shields, the artist, to Mr. John Plant, the curator of the museum, are interesting, and one of them suggestive:—"7, Lodge Place, London, N.W., 19 5 '80. My dear Mr. Plant: I have seen the photograph from the picture belonging to Sir Henry Taylor, which is supposed to portray Chatterton, and which resembles the portrait, attributed to Hogarth, of the poet in your Museum. I should be obliged if you can tell me what you know of the history of this portrait, and on what evidence it is entitled Chatterton, and ascribed to Hogarth's pencil. With sincere regards, believe me, truly yours, Frederic J. Shields." Mr. Plant replied that although it was a matter for much regret, nothing was known of the history of the picture, and that Mr. Agnew was responsible for title and artist. A few days after, Mr. Shields answered as follows:—"My dear Mr. Plant,—The oil head belonging to Sir Henry Taylor seems about twelve or thirteen years old. Curiously, it resembles the Salford one, as does a rough engraving also, in a different pose, which exists. Did Alcock, the miniature painter, whom Chatterton knew, make some posthumous reminiscence of C. from which these paintings derive? But where is such reminiscent portrait, which would probably be a miniature? I say posthumous, for if any portrait had been painted in his life-time, it could scarcely have escaped all notice by his biographers. I remain, yours truly, Fred. J. Shields." The inference that no portrait was

painted of him during his life-time is contrary to the testimony of his familiar acquaintances, as we may gather from Dix's *Life of Chatterton*, 8vo., London, 1851. "She" (Mrs. Stephens, a school playmate) "well remembers seeing, at Richard Phillips's a picture, not framed, of Chatterton, in his blue coat, his cap in his hand, with his mother leading him towards a tomb, the likeness of his mother being very great, and she thinks it was drawn by Chatterton; it was only partly coloured, but his likeness was not so good as his mother's" (pp. 190-1). Again, Mrs. Edkins, who attended his father's school, and knew the family well, tells us that "at what age she did not know, but Wheatley painted his picture (most likely when in London) and her son had seen it."

All who feel any interest in the young Bristol poet will wish that more were known of this picture, whose beauty and power, though great now, must have been greater still, when its tints were fresher. Yet, although there is neither title nor artist's signature, to identify it, the claims for it to be a veritable portrait of Chatterton are at least such as to render them worthy of a respectful consideration.

H.P.E.

Peel Park.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO COVENTRY.

(Query No. 3,181, July 21.)

[3,185.] The following is the most interesting and one of the best routes from Manchester to Coventry: To Stockport, 6½ miles (better to do this by train, to avoid the pavement): Whaley Bridge, 16½; Buxton, 22½; Ashbourne, 43½; Sudbury, 51½; Lichfield, 67½; Birmingham, 83½; to Coventry, 101½; or Birmingham may be avoided by going from Lichfield to Coleshill, 82½; to Coventry, 95 miles. Through Birmingham is by far the best road.

JAMES T. LIGHTWOOD, C.T.C.

Lytham.

* * *

J. S. has the the choice of two routes to Coventry. The one I have taken myself has been through Buxton, Ashbourne, Uttoxeter, Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield, and Birmingham; but I would recommend him to miss Buxton and take the Macclesfield and Leek route as far as Ashbourne. Both these routes are a little farther than going through the Potteries, but

the wretched roads peculiar to that district are avoided. When leaving Sutton Coldfield for Birmingham let J. S. take care and avoid crossing the whole of the town. Upon inquiry at Aston he will be able to make a short cut to the Coventry Road. For bicycle and tricycle purposes the road from Birmingham to Coventry is splendid, and is reputed one of the smoothest and most level in the kingdom. The following are the approximate distances by the Buxton route:—

Manchester to Buxton	24 miles.
Buxton to Ashbourne	20 "
Ashbourne to Uttoxeter	12 "
Uttoxeter to Lichfield	18 "
Lichfield to Sutton Coldfield	9 "
Sutton Coldfield to Birmingham	5 "
Birmingham to Coventry	19 "

RODEADOR.

* * *

The best road to Coventry is by Altrincham, 8½; Knutsford, 15½; Holmes Chapel, 23½; Church Lawton, 31½; Newcastle, 38½; Stone, 47½; Rugeley, 62½; Lichfield, 70½; Coleshill, 85½; Stonebridge, 89½; and Coventry, 97½ miles. Though this is not the usual way to the south, it will be found easier than that by Alderley and Congleton, and is very little farther. At the four cross-roads at the Lawton Arms, Church Lawton, go straight on, and this will be found a much easier way past Talk-o'-th'-Hill than the usual one. From here to Newcastle the road is generally very bad. From Newcastle to Rugeley is a beautiful and easy ride along the Trent valley, passing Trent-ham. From Rugeley to Lichfield be very particular to go by Armitage, as the other road is hilly. From Lichfield to Coleshill is a long, lonely ride, rather hilly, with the road inclined to be loose in dry weather, and is rather difficult to find. If J. S. is by himself, or the weather has been dry, I should almost advise him to go from Lichfield to Stonebridge by Sutton Coldfield and Castle Bromich. Or he could go through Birmingham, if he desired, either of which routes would be very little longer than the distance given.

W. BINNS.

CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO BLACKPOOL.

(Query No. 3,132, July 21.)

[3,186.] The best tricycle route from Manchester to Blackpool is through Bolton (11 miles), Chorley (22½), Preston (31½), Lytham (43½), to Blackpool (51½). It is a bad road for tricycling, being paved to Bolton, loose and rough to Chorley, but a good hard

road from Chorley to Preston. Preston to Freckleton is part "cobbles" and part over a moss; then there is a good road the rest of the way.

JAMES T. LIGHTWOOD, C.T.C.

Lytham.

"AW'L NE'ER PAWN MY FIDDLE."

(Query No. 3,183, July 21.)

[3,187.] The old tradition as to the pawning of the fiddle refers to one "Johnny," an enthusiast in connection with that instrument and the music which can be produced by it. The doggrel poetry represents him as being solicited to pawn his fiddle and buy his wife a new gown; and ran as follows:—

"Johnny, come pawn thy fiddle,
And buy thy wife a gown."
"Na, I'll not pawn my fiddle
For never a wife in th' town;
If I were to pawn my fiddle
I think I should go mad,
To think of the many merry days
My fiddle and I have had."

This is the Yorkshire version of the story. I do not know of any other. Sixty or seventy years ago the song was very popular, and was often sung by boys in the streets.

THOMAS BRITTAIN.

* * *

"Jack, goo peawn thi fiddle, and boy thi woife a geawn."
"Naw, aw'st ne'er peawn my fiddle for ne'er a woife
— i'th' teawn;
If aw wur to peawn my fiddle aw'm sure aw should
go mad,
To think what merry carrants th' ow'd fiddle and me
has had."

I have heard my father sing the above many a time and oft over fifty years ago. I know the tune well (as he sang it), but have neither music nor words. If your querist would see Mr. Ben Brierley at Abel Heywood and Son's, Oldham-street, I think he would assist him in obtaining it.

H. T.

Whalley Range.

* * *

"Jock, go pawn thy fiddle,
And buy thy wife a new gown."
"Nay, I'll not pawn my fiddle
For e'er a wife in town.
If I were to pawn my fiddle,
I think I should go mad;
For many a jolly corant
My fiddle and I have had."

These are all the words of the song I ever heard, and I heard it often enough when I was a little child, certainly more than fifty years ago. And the word "corant" indicates a much greater age for it, since the corant was, I believe, danced in the days of the

Stuarts. Whether the sprightly air was what was known in music as a *coranto* I am not qualified to say; nor am I competent to convey it in musical notation, although I know it well. It is a sort of jig tune; and I have heard it on the bagpipes many a time.

ISABELLA BANKS.

THE STANDISHS OF DUXBURY.

(April 28, 1883.)

[3,188.] Miss MARY ROBERTS says that "Frank Hall Standish died at Seville in 1840." The following is copied from a memorial on the wall of the chancel in the Parish Church of Chorley, from which it would appear that he died at Cadiz:—

In memory of Frank Hall Standish, of Duxbury Hall, in the county of Lancaster, Esq., who died at Cadiz, on the 21st day of December, 1840, and was interred in the chancel of this church on the 21st day of January, 1841. Mr. Hall Standish was born at Blackwell, in the parish of Darlington, in the county of Durham, on the first of October, 1789. He was the only child of Anthony Hall, of Flass, in the county of Durham, Esq., by Charlotte, his wife, daughter of Scipio Rey, Esq., and great-grandson of Margaret, daughter of the first William Wombwell, of Wombwell, in the county of York, Esq., of which marriage there is no surviving issue; and secondly, Anthony Hall, Esq., by whom she had issue, Anthony Hall, Esq., her eldest surviving son (the grandfather of Mr. Hall, Standish), and several other sons and daughters. On the death of Sir Frank, the last baronet, in the year 1812, intestate and unmarried, his extensive estates in the counties of Lancaster and York, devolved upon Mr. Hall Standish, as his heir-at-law, who thereupon by royal license assumed the name of Standish in addition to Hall, and took the arms of Standish of Duxbury, quarterly with those of Hall. Mr. Hall Standish was never married, and, by virtue of a devise contained in his will, his estates became vested in his heir-at-law, William Standish Carr, of Cocken Hall, in the county of Durham, Esq. (since by Her Majesty's license called William Standish Standish, Esq.), who is the great grandson of the above mentioned Margaret Standish, through her daughter Ann, who married the Rev. Ralph Carr, Rector of Alderley, in the county of Chester.

In classical and modern literature the attainments of Mr. Standish were of a superior order. As an author he was highly accomplished; in the fine arts his tastes and liberality were most eminent. His extensive and valuable gallery of pictures, together with his unique and costly library of the rarest books, selected with consummate judgment, were bequeathed by him to His Majesty Louis Philip, the King of the French. His Majesty has duly appreciated the objects of this bequest, and has deposited them in a suite of cabinets in the Louvre, which he has designated "The *Musée Standish*, 1843."

Could Miss ROBERTS give us the remainder of the song about "Duxbury Races and Yarrow Bridge Fair?"

TRELA.

QUERIES.

[3,189.] CYCLIST'S ROUTE TO HARROGATE.—Which is the best bicycle road from Manchester to Harrogate, and is it possible to avoid the towns of Huddersfield and Leeds, or in fact any other large town en route, without materially increasing the distance by making a circuit? Are the roads in the neighbourhood of Harrogate favourable for bicycling?

RODEADOR.

[3,190.] THUNDER BELLS.—In Longfellow's *Hyperion*, book fourth, chapter second, on Curfew Bells, after describing the effect of a wind and thunder storm, he says: "Mingled with this was the sound of thunder bells from a village not far off. They were all ringing dolefully, to ward off the thunderbolt." What is the origin of this superstitious custom, and does it obtain in England?

R. R.

[3,191.] THE BRADSHAW OF DARCY LEVER.—Who are the present representatives of James Bradshaw, who resided at Darcy Lever Hall, near Bolton, in and about the year 1780, and who was a county magistrate, and whose arms and pedigree are duly entered in Sir William Dugdale's Visitation of Lancashire, 1664-5, page 51? Also mentioned in *Notes and Queries* of October, 1856, pages 249 and 294; in Burke's (third edition, 1857) Encyclopædia of Heraldry; and in Burke's Dictionary of Landed Gentry (1852, vol. 1, pages 134-5).

G. H.

ANOTHER "MISSING LINK."—An interesting discovery has been made in Paraguay of a tribe of Indians with tails. An Argentine domiciled in the Argentine Missions has a yerba establishment in the Paraguayan Missions, in a district called Tacura-Tuyu. While collecting the yerba in the yerba woods the other day his mules were attacked by some Guayacuyos Indians, who fled after killing several mules. The muleteers pursued, firing on the Indians, one of whom a boy about eight years old, was captured. This boy was brought to Posadas, where Don Francesco Golcohc, the Argentine referred to, lives, and excited much curiosity, owing to his having a tail six to eight inches long. The boy, who has been photographed by some Germans, is, it is stated, very ugly; but his body is not covered with hair. A brother of the boy, at present in the possession of Colonel Rudeciudo Roca, has also a tail; and all the tribe are said to be similarly adorned.

ONE OF THE BALAKLAVA HEROES.

DIDSBUY, July 22.

I have written too often to the *City News* lately, but this wet week end induces me to send you an account of one who struck a good blow for his country. At his work a few days since, he has now been carried across the lane to his long home in the church-yard. Sixteen months ago the *City News* published an account of the very sudden death of a Crimean man who had been a valued servant of mine for some years. At his death an old comrade who was lodging with him succeeded to his place, and of this man I will now write a short history.

Michael Macnamara was born in Killandra, Tipperary, about sixty-one years ago. He enlisted in the Fifth Dragoon Guards (old Green Horse) July 27, 1841, and served with his regiment through the Crimean campaign. He received the medal for "distinguished conduct in the field" at Balaklava, and as Balaklava is, to the popular fancy, the most interesting part of the Crimean war, this scrap of history is taken from those who saw and shared what was done.

In the morning of the battle, before it was yet light, a large body of Russian cavalry, who were taking new position, suddenly came upon our heavy cavalry, who were leaving camp. The surprise was mutual. General Scarlett instantly ordered the charge, and our men were engulfed in ten times their number of Russians. With fierce cries they hacked their way through the opposing mass, the Russians being staggered by the intensity of the attack. Kinglake gives a vivid account of the hand-to-hand fight that ensued. He describes our men, the Scots Greys, Inniskillings (Irish), and Dragoons, who now charged as having in their veins the blood of a warrior race who looked upon war as a pastime and who loved fighting for fighting's sake. The Russians he describes as docile serfs, drawn in the conscription, well drilled and brave. But their drill was not adapted for a scrimmage, and their men and horses were smaller than ours. Only their loose top-coats protected them from sword cuts, and in many instances they were dragged from the saddle by our men, some of whom were in their shirt sleeves and others bareheaded.

In this *melée*, where each man had literally to live

by the sword, was an energetic Russian officer in silver and blue uniform, mounted on a good horse, with a revolver. He had already shot two of our men (Taylor of Liverpool being one), when Macnamara, who was a big-boned, six-foot-one man, charged straight at him. The Russian reeled, shot at him, missed, and then—with one fell swoop Mac's "sword shore through plume and helmet and hair and skull till the side of the Russian's head hung down by the skin of the neck." The whirl of battle thickened round them, the marks of which Mac carried to his grave, but the Russians fled, and at evening this officer was buried in our camp, his horse remaining with the British. A few months afterwards his splendid uniform was bartered for a leg of mutton, a ham, and three bottles of whisky. Sic transit!

When the troops returned to England Macnamara was presented to the Queen, and his portrait is one in the picture of the Balaklava heroes that is now at Windsor Castle. He was offered an officer's commission, but, being illiterate, could not accept it. He received the silver medal and £5 for distinguished conduct in the field, the French, the Crimean, with clasps for Balaklava, Inkerman, and Sebastopol, and the Turkish, also £5 and silver medal for long service and good conduct. Unfortunately none of these medals can be found. His pension of eighteen pence a day was more substantial, for he had to live on it for many years, never having any other employment until he partly stepped into his comrade's place to look after my horses and poultry. Mac never would go to Ireland even when he was hard up, for he said his relatives hated him for joining the English army. For sixteen months he had regular employment, and lately said he was more comfortable than ever he had been before.

Those who have figured in their country's battles deserve some recognition. Lance-Sergeant Michael Macnamara, after twenty-seven years' service, was deserted by his relatives, had apparently outlived most of his comrades, and was never married. At last he found a home, when he suddenly died. He was carried to the grave by four men, each of whom was over six feet in height. Three of them and himself had sixteen months before carried their comrade Wilson to his last resting-place.

FLETCHER MOSS.

Saturday, August 4, 1883.

NOTES.

THE MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD.

[3,192.] Under the superintendence of the National Association for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead, the work of copying the monumental inscriptions in the cathedral, churches, churchyards, and closed burial-grounds in the city of Norwich is rapidly progressing, and will be extended to the county. The transcriptions are partially complete at the Cathedral and the churches of St. Martin at Palace, St. Peter at Mancroft, St. Giles, and St. Stephen's, and is wholly completed at St. John's, Timberhill, and St. Helen's churches and churchyards, the Old Meeting House, and Quakers' burial-grounds. The whole of the inscriptions are being copied so far as they are legible, and will be supplemented by drawings of all coats of arms. The importance of this undertaking to historians and genealogists cannot be over-estimated, and their value as supplementary to Parish Registers needs no demonstration.

In the church of St. Helen the name of Attelsey occurs as follows, and this may be taken as an example of the work done:—

- Slab 1..... { Edward Attelsey, Senr. dyed Oct. 27, 1693, aged 67.
Edward Attelsey, Junr. died Dec. 21, 1741, aged 45.
- Slab 2..... Edward Attelsey, died Aug. 14, 1694.
- Slab 3..... { Prudence, wife of Edward Attelsey, died Aug. 22, 1694, Aged 71.
(This stone is broken into three pieces.)
- Slab 4..... { Wm. Attelsey, son of Edwd. and Prue. Attelsey, died Sep. 1st. 1706, aged 47 years.
Pagraff Attelsey, his wife, died Sep. 30, 1748.
Mary Attelsey, daughter of Willm. and Pagraff Attelsey, died Sep. 12th. 1749, aged 60 years.
- Mural Tablet 5... { Peter Attelsey, Esq., Alderman, Sheriff, and Mayor, died Feb. 4, 1729, aged 66.
Anne his wife died Sep. 26, 1728, aged 75.
Edward and John their Sons.
- Slab 6..... { Edward Attelsey, son of Peter Attelsey and Ann his wife, died June, 1698.
- Mural Tablet ...7 { Mr. Peter Attelsey, merchant, died Jan. 23, 1750, in his 63rd year.
Mrs. Jane Attelsey, his widow, died March 16, 1753, in her 60th year.
Mr. Peter Attelsey, their son, died 8th Aug., 1746, in his 18th year.
- Slab 8..... Edward, son of Peter Attelsey, junr., died 1719.

- Slab 9..... { Nicholas Attelsey, son of Edwd. and Prue. Attelsey, was buried 24th Feb., 1718, aged 54 years.
Sarah, his wife, was buried 14th Oct., 1725, aged 64 years.
Martha, daughter of the above and wife of Wm. Attelsey, died Nov. 30, 1735, aged 39 years.
Sarah Attelsey, daughter of Wm. and Martha Attelsey, died Dec. 23rd. 1748, aged 22 years.
- Mural Tablet 10.. { Anne, youngest daughter of Peter Attelsey, Esq., and Anne his wife, the late wife of John Barker, died Dec. 4, 1733, aged 40 years.
Sarah, eldest daughter of Peter Attelsey, Esq., and Anne his wife, ye widow of Philip Dyball, died Sep. 9, 1735, aged 45 years.
Philip Dyball, late husband of Sarah Dyball, departed this life Dec. 28, 1718, aged 28 years.
Anne, daughter of Philip and Sarah Dyball, died Feb. 25th, 1731, aged 14.
Philip, their son, died Nov. 18th. 1716, in the first year of his age.

Who were these Attelseys? Is the name uncommon? Is the Christian name "Pagraff" unusual, and are not the words "was buried" in the cases of Nicholas Attelsey and Sarah, his wife, peculiar?

It is intended to carry on this work in other parts of the country as funds permit. But immediate attention will, if possible, be given to any cases where demolition is threatened, and information of such designs will be gladly welcomed, so that every endeavour may be used to preserve historical memorials.

Belle Vue Rise, Norwich.

WILLIAM VINCENT,
Secretary.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE STANDISHES OF DUXBURY AND CAPTAIN MILES STANDISH.

(No. 3,188.)

[3,193.] In answer to TRELA, I may say that the few lines of "Duxbury Races" are all I could recover of the old song. It had been popular only amongst the most illiterate, and at a time when there was no newspaper to chronicle the boisterous proceedings at the hall. Forty years ago the circumstance of the riot itself had almost entirely faded away from public remembrance.

As to Frank Hall Standish, it was inaccurate on my part to say he died at Seville. He was on his way from Seville to England, which he hoped to reach, when overtaken by death at Cadiz. It was

his earnest wish to die at Duxbury, but this was not permitted; departure from a favourite abode having been too long delayed. The house in Seville was spoken of as approaching a palace in magnificence, and was maintained for many years at large expense, the entertainments being of the highest order. After his disappointment to procure the restoration of the baronetcy, Mr. Standish made no effort to continue intimacy with the county families of Lancashire, and from thence until his death only occasionally visited Duxbury, which place he made the repository of works of art purchased abroad. When the time came to transmit these to France, the men and vans of Pickford were occupied two weeks in the removal. As to the high value of the collection, a visit to the Louvre will satisfy an inquirer; and Louis Philippe, as a testimonial of obliged acceptance of the munificent gift, presented Mrs. Carr Standish, on passing through Paris from Nice, with a full service of Sevres.

When visiting the Hall—principally for business or inspection—the master's presence was scarcely known beyond its precincts. He was seldom seen outside the grounds; and, except a favourite cook and valet, who accompanied him, the ordinary moderate retinue of the Hall was not increased. To this man, lonely in spite of his wealth, it may be that the remembrance of his most intimate friend in England, "Parson" Jackson, of Rivington, was an inducement in the endeavour to reach Chorley. His last hours, during his last earthly journey, were uncheered by any affectionate presence; and his funeral procession, to deposit the remains in the Standish vault, was attended chiefly by those whose duty it was to see it performed, William Carr, the heir-at-law, not being found until some time had elapsed.

If a few more particulars than I formerly gave, relating to Miles Standish, of Massachusetts, might be acceptable to readers of the *Manchester City News*, perhaps space may be found for insertion of the following.

Captain Standish, in the year 1630, settled in the place he had named as Duxbury, on a tract of land granted to him by the colony, and which was afterwards known as the Standish farm. This homestead estate, containing about one hundred and fifty acres, was left by will to his son Alexander, who lived on it till his death in 1702. Alexander devised this paternal property to his son Miles, who resided on it

till his death in 1739. The latter had a numerous family. He also had a son Miles, who inherited the old homestead, with its adjoining land, but who removed to Bridgewater, and died in 1784. The mother of the last-named, and one sister remained at the ancient home, and were the last of the family who resided there. The estate was sold by Miles, July 3rd. 1763, to Samuel and Sylvanus Drew, who disposed of the property to Wait Wadsworth, and from his hands it passed to George Faunce, and descended to his children; then a part was purchased of his grandson, George Faunce, and a part of Luther Pierce, by the present proprietor. The descendants of Captain Standish are very numerous, and are scattered through the whole county. Some remain in New England. Moses Standish, Lemuel Miles Standish, and one or two brothers reside in Boston, and William and Benjamin Standish, and perhaps some others, still reside in Duxbury and Plymouth county.

To the house which he had built, Captain Standish removed upon his second marriage taking place, and here he drew around him a devoted class of friends, among whom were Elder Brewster, George Partridge, John Alden, Peter Brown, George Soule, and other noted settlers of Duxbury. Miles Standish in his old age enjoyed good health until his last illness; and his vigour, both of mind and body, seemed as strong and fresh as in his early days. The disease of which he died was the strangury; his wife, Barbara, surviving him. A friend (Hubbard), writing of the Captain shortly after his decease, says that "Despite his hasty temper—for a little chimney is soon fired and blown into a flame—yet the people were all willing to be ordered by him in their concerns. He was likewise improved [employed] to good acceptance and success in affairs of the greatest moment in the colony, to whose interest he continued firm and steadfast to the last; and always managed his trust with great integrity and faithfulness."

When Miles Standish visited England in 1625, at a troubled and inopportune period for urging an interest in foreign ventures, he was empowered—consequent on the loss of the sister ship and its valuable cargo by the pirates—to borrow money in London sufficient to purchase those goods for the colony of which it stood in the most urgent need. All that Captain Standish was enabled to do, was, by private conference, to prepare the way for a composition with the "Company of Adventurers," and by the help of a

few friends, "with great trouble and danger," to procure a small quantity of goods for the colony, amounting to £150, which he took up at the exorbitant interest of fifty per cent. With this scanty but welcome supply he made his second entry from Europe into the Bay of Plymouth in the spring of 1626.

It is not generally known that the American branch of the Duxbury Standishes have believed themselves legally entitled to the succession of the English Duxbury estates; and, following inquiry consequent on the decease of Frank Hall Standish, a combination was formed to supply funds for an agent in Lancashire to prosecute a search for evidence in their behalf. This was in 1848; and the attempt was unsuccessfully renewed in 1868, when a Mr. Bromley was some time in Chorley, empowered by the Standishes of Massachusetts, to do all in his power to render the family transmission of the property in question, by hereditary descent, intelligible to those interested on the other side of the Atlantic.

Mr. Bromley during his researches applied for permission to inspect the parish register in the Old Church of Chorley—dating only from 1549—which permission the rector, James Streynsham Master, believing his object to be merely antiquarian curiosity, readily accorded, but when the investigator called upon him, in his official capacity, to testify to an alleged defacement of a certain page in the book, Mr. Master—according to Mr. Bromley's account—compelled him to pay a fine of £15 for having in reality had a legal purpose in the transaction, instead of the more obvious antiquarian one.

In memory of Miles Standish and his band of "Pilgrims," may we not recall a few of Mrs. Hemans' lines relating to them, knowing that the same spirit of perseverance and endurance, in a course believed to be right, animates thousands of our countrymen and countrywomen leaving their native shore at this day, as it did in the olden one.

Not as the conqueror comes,
They, the true-hearted, came;
Not with the roll of the stirring drums,
And the trumpet that sings of fame.
There were men with hoary hair
Amidst that pilgrim band,—
Why have they come to wither there,
Away from their childhood's land?
There was woman's fearless eye,
Lit by her deep love's truth;
There was manhood's brow serenely high,
And the fiery heart of youth.

Bristol.

MARY ROBERTS.

"AW'L NE'ER PAWN MY FIDDLE."

(Nos. 3,183 and 3,187.)

[3,194.] Permit me to call attention to what seem to me the very awkward versions of this old song as given in your last issue. I remember well hearing it fifty years ago as follows, which I think much more natural, smooth, and correct than the two versions supplied:—

"Johnny, go pawn thi fiddle,
And buy the wife a gown."
"Awd ne'er go pawn mi fiddle
For never a wife i'th town;
For if aw should pawn mi fiddle,
Aw think aw should go mad,
To think what jovial days
My fiddle and me have had."

Birkdale.

WM. WARBURTON.

* * *

In the interesting little note by Mrs. LINNÆUS BANKS, referring to the date and origin of the old air "I'll ne'er pawn my fiddle," the suggestion is offered that the use of the word "corant" indicates a much greater age for the song than the beginning of the present century. Mrs. BANKS remarks incidentally that the "corant" was danced in the days of the Stuarts—which is likely enough, for it was certainly danced in the days of Queen Elizabeth. The word occurs with sufficient frequency in Shakspeare to prove this. It seems to have been a courtly dance, more akin to the waltz than the jig. Ben Jonson, in one of his masques, connects it with a "galliard," another old dance, the name of which, by-the-bye, has again come to the front, through a celebrated racehorse carrying it to victory. The line "lavoltas high and swift corantos," which occurs in one of the French scenes in *Henry V.*, seems to leave little doubt that the term is borrowed from one of the Latin languages, probably Spanish; and, like "courier," "current," and all the kindred words, implies rapidity of motion. It is both a song and a dance.

FRANK H.

CICLYSTS' ROUTES TO HARROGATE.

(Query No. 3,189, July 28.)

[3,195.] I have been many different ways to Harrogate, and find the easiest is by Rochdale, 11; Littleborough, 14½; Todmorden, 20; Halifax, 32½; Bradford, 40½; Otley, 50½; Poole, 58½; to Harrogate, 62½ miles. At Littleborough you can go over Blackstone Edge, which is 4½ miles shorter; but at the start there is a steep continuous rise of 2½ miles, then four miles of a descent, some parts very steep, the last piece into Ripponden being very dangerous;

there is also an unrideable rise (large sets) near King's Cross.

The most picturesque route is by Bury, 8; Haslingden, 16; Whalley, 25; Clitheroe, 28½; Skipton, 47½ miles. From here there are two roads to Addingham, 52½; one goes over a big hill, which was very loose; I am told the other one is much better. Then Ilkley, 56½; Otley, 62½; Harrogate, 74½ miles.

The direct route through Oldham, Huddersfield, and Leeds is 56 miles, and is hilly, nearly all the way; rather rough about Delph and Marsden, very rough from Nun's Brook to Beeston, fair from Leeds to Harrogate. The road from Manchester to Oldham, and the towns of Leeds and Huddersfield are paved with small sets, but the rest of the route is macadamized. W. H. Smith and Son's map of Leeds and environs shows the whole of these routes. Many of the roads near Harrogate are good but hilly.

H. R. GOODWIN, C.T.C.

QUERIES.

[3,196.] CYCLISTS' TOUR IN NORTH WALES.—Which is a nice three days' bicycle tour, circular or otherwise, in North Wales, starting from Manchester? What points of interest are to be seen on the road?

CURUS.

[3,197.] A WORKHOUSE TOKEN.—A curious coin has recently come into my possession, unlike any which I have before seen. On what appears to be the obverse side are the words "One pound note payable at the workhouse for 240 tokens," and a crest; on the reverse side are the words "Birmingham, 1812, one penny"—surrounding the impression of a building (presumably the workhouse). The coin is of course copper, and a little larger than the present penny. I should be glad if any of your readers can afford any information concerning it.

G.

MR. JAMES CROSSLEY, F.S.A.

Mr. James Crossley, F.S.A., president for thirty-five years of the Chetham Society, died at noon on Wednesday last, at his residence, Stocks House, Chetham, at the age of eighty-three. In May last, whilst on a visit to London, he slipped on the platform of the Euston Station, and injured his arm. The accident necessitated confinement to his house, and about a fortnight ago symptoms of a serious illness appeared. He has been gradually sinking since, and passed away quietly on Wednesday last.

The death of Mr. Crossley removes from our midst a singularly interesting and unique personage. He has been resident in Manchester sixty-seven years, during the earlier portion of which he took an active part in local public affairs, especially in opposition to the incorporation of the town, and in support of the Conservative party. But long before his retirement from professional life as a solicitor, which took place in 1860, he had relinquished the stormy field of party and municipal politics for the calmer and more congenial arena of literature; and it is in this sphere that he found his lasting happiness and achieved the work by which he will chiefly be remembered. He was a contributor when little more than a youth to the *Gentleman's Magazine* and *Blackwood's Magazine*, and later he was one of the chief supports of the *Retrospective Review*. In 1843, the Chetham Society was founded, at a meeting held in Mr. Crossley's house in Booth-street, Piccadilly, Dr. Edward Holme being elected the first president. On Dr. Holme's death in 1868, Mr. Crossley was appointed to the office, and he has held it since. Besides the works which he edited for the Society, he exercised a general directing control over its publications, and there is scarcely a volume out of the one hundred and ten already issued that is not enriched with notes from his pen, or to which he did not contribute valuable aid in the way of counsel. He was president also of the Spenser Society and the Record Society, and an active member of the Roxburghe Club, the Philobiblion Society, and the English Dialect Society. Besides being a great collector himself, he was always ready to give his services to any object of a bibliographical kind. He thus rendered valuable aid to the committee established for the formation of the Manchester free libraries, and since the death of Mr. Thomas Jones he has acted as honorary librarian at the Chetham Library. Eminent as Mr. Crossley was as scholar, antiquary, bibliographer, and bibliophile, he will best be remembered by those who knew him as a conversationalist and genial companion. His talk was not deep or brilliant, nor was it remarkable for its witty and pregnant sayings; but it flowed on in an easy and delightful ripple, and was invariably an entertaining combination of information, gossip, anecdote, reminiscence, and apt quotation. It was these qualities which made him so acceptable an after-dinner speaker, for his after-dinner addresses were just as easy and conversational as his ordinary every-day talk. The massive proportions of his figure, his Dr. Johnson-like aspect, and his somewhat old-fashioned attire made him a conspicuous object in the streets of the city, his disappearance from which and from the old bookstalls and shops will leave upon not a few minds the sense of a personal loss.

Saturday, August 11, 1883.

NOTES.

REMARKABLE WELSH PLACE-NAME.

[3,198.] At this holiday season it may be interesting to your readers to put before them the name of a place containing sixty-seven letters, which I came upon casually last Saturday morning. The name is Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgertrobwillgerchwyrnbwllgogerbwllldysiliogogoch. Locally it is called Llanfair P.G. to save time and trouble, but the girl who waited upon us at the hotel there repeated the name to us twice over with the greatest ease. The town, or village, bearing this modest name is situated in Anglesey, upon the Holyhead Road, five miles from Bangor. Do any of your many readers know of a place in any country with a longer and more difficult name to pronounce?

VERDUS.

Bangor.

A GLIMPSE OF GEORGE ELIOT AND GEORGE HENRY LEWES.

[3,199.] In the summer of 1868 I was staying at Harrogate, and while walking one day in the Cheltenham Gardens, my wife said, "I believe I have just met Marian Evans." "Why," I answered, "did you not ask her, and be sure about it? There can be no harm in speaking to her." My wife left me, but returned after a while, saying, "It is she, you must come to be introduced to her." I went willingly, and was duly presented to Mr. and Mrs. Lewes. I sat between them for more than an hour, although it seemed a very short time to me. I was too busy listening to talk much, as I was anxious to hear her speak of her writings, although at the time I had read very few of them. She did not hesitate to do so, and when I asked which of her works she thought the best she replied, *The Spanish Gypsy*. In stature she appeared about the middle height. Her face was long, her features pronounced, and her complexion pale and rather sallow. Her hair was dark and abundant. When in repose her countenance had rather a melancholy expression, but when she spoke with a smile her expression was charming.

Of course I afterwards asked my wife how she brought about the recognition. When they met she begged to be excused in asking if her name was once Marian Evans. Mrs. Lewes, bowing coldly, said, "Yes." "I see that you do not know me." "I do not." "Do you not remember Jane M—— at Miss Franklin's school, at Coventry?" In a moment her

countenance changed, all reserve was gone. She apologized, and explained that so many strangers introduced themselves to her wherever she went, that it was often positively painful to her. She was then out of health and wanted rest and quiet. Much conversation took place between them before I was summoned to the presence of the celebrated authoress.

I cannot give much account of my wife's recollections of their intercourse at school beyond the fact that Marian Evans many a time assisted her when her exercises, &c., were extra difficult, that she was a long way ahead of every girl in the school, and that her governesses almost stood in awe of her marvellous talents. She learned without an effort, her themes were faultless, and she played brilliantly on the piano. She was occasionally depressed in spirits and was sometimes hysterical.

My conversation with Mr. G. H. Lewes was chiefly of a physiological character, as I was suffering from paralysis, and he had not long ago lost a son, who died from a similar complaint. Mr. Lewes was certainly eccentric in appearance. His complexion was far from fair; his hair was dark, and hung over the collar of his coat. He wore a soft, wide-brimmed hat, and a loose coat trimmed with fur, although the weather was decidedly warm. A gushing lady meeting him at a matinée at St. James's Hall in London exclaimed, "Oh, you dear picturesque man." This truly described his outer man.

We met them once or twice after the first interview. The last time was on "The Stray," when my wife gave her a small book, *The Gates Ajar*, which she had not read. Of the four who then parted I am, alas! the only one left on this side the grave.

C. D. L.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

APPLEBY'S POEMS.

(Query No. 3,173, July 7.)

[3,200.] The volume inquired about is, I presume, *Le Circe, and Other Poems*, by John Appleby, published in 1873 by Provost and Co., London. The title-page informs us that Mr. Appleby is the "compiler of *Stage and Literary Celebrities*, and author of *Serial Papers*." There is nothing in the book to show that he is or was in any way connected with this district. "Poems" the contents are not; the writer is obviously ignorant not merely of the most elementary requirements and conditions of poetry,

but of grammar. He sets at defiance sense and syntax, metre and harmony, rhyme and rhythm. The thoughts are jejune, commonplace, often silly. Here are the first four lines of a page on Shakspeare:—

O'er three hundred years have been and gone,
Since thou! immortal bard of Stratford-Avon;
Thou chief, mighty genius, now laying in dust.
But thy likeness—is now before me in bust.

There are one hundred pages of such like stuff.

No further seek its merits to disclose,
Nor draw its frailty from its "dull" abode.

ION.

WORKHOUSE TOKENS.

(Query No. 8,197, August 4.)

[3,201.] The workhouse tokens inquired about by G. were very common at the date of the Birmingham penny which he speaks of, 1812. I have now before me a Sheffield workhouse penny token of the year 1813. The Government copper coins failed to supply the necessities of business. The long war or some other cause had driven them out of circulation to a large extent. To meet the urgent want overseers of the poor, and shopkeepers as well, undertook to meet the difficulty by the issue of penny tokens payable on demand at the place of issue. I know a grocer who circulated a large quantity. This was a public convenience and a good means of advertising the business. It is certain that these issues of token coins were permitted by the Government of the day, probably under an Act of Parliament, but of that I am not certain. The Sheffield token represents a good impression of the old Sheffield workhouse, which no longer exists, with the words, "Overseers of the Poor," and the date 1813. On the other side is a female figure representing peace holding an olive branch. The inscription, "Sheffield penny token," surrounds the figure. I have a Manchester halfpenny token, issued by and payable at "Fielding's, Grocer and Tea Dealer." The words, "Manchester promissory halfpenny," is legible, as also the date 1795. There are certain figures upon the token which I have not yet been able to understand.

THOMAS BRITAIN.

Urmston.

QUERIES.

[3,202.] REGENT ROAD BRIDGE.—What was the date of the opening of Regent Road Bridge free from toll for foot passengers? JOHN ARMSTRONG.

[3,203.] How is it that the tides occur at such irregular intervals? Between the two tides in the twenty-four hours there is a difference in time as low

as thirty-two minutes, and as high as eighty-one minutes.

BLACKPOOL.

[3,204.] AUTHORSHIP OF POEM.—What is the name of the poem wherein are the following lines, and who was the author?

Can the forest birds forget their sweetest songs?
When this shall be, then thou shalt be forgot.

G. R. T.

[3,205.] LANCASHIRE PERIODICALS.—Will some of your readers kindly furnish me with the exact dates of the appearance of the first and last numbers of the following periodicals:—The Lancashire Figaro; Momus; Swinton Parish Magazine; Buzz. I have copies of these papers, but require the information asked, for a bibliographical purpose. Any reference to local parish magazines would be esteemed a favour, either in these columns or if sent to me personally.

J. COOPER MORLEY.

11, Leather Lane, Liverpool.

CHARLES DICKENS'S SEASIDE RESORT.—Two residences at Broadstairs, which are associated with Charles Dickens's memory, were sold by auction last week. The first of these was Fort House, a structure standing on the cliff at Broadstairs, which was rendered celebrated by the famous novelist in his tale *Bleak House*. Here Dickens spent many a summer holiday. The house, with its pertaining acre of land, was sold to Mr. W. S. Blackburn for £2,500. Lawn House, a cottage wherein Dickens wrote the major portion of the *Old Curiosity Shop*, fetched £730.

EXPLORATION OF THE CONGO.—Mr. H. Johnston, the naturalist, has returned to England from the Congo with the news that Mr. Stanley was preparing to start from Leopoldville, with a flotilla of three steamers and many native canoes, on a voyage up the river to the Stanley Falls, a distance of about 1,000 miles. Mr. Stanley had formed alliances with the various chiefs who own the territory along the north bank of the Congo for a long distance beyond Stanley Pool, and had signed treaties, with a view of checkmating M. de Brazza; but it seems that the International Association at Brussels has forwarded to Mr. Stanley stringent orders to maintain a friendly understanding with the French expedition, and to show deference to the rights acquired by France on the Congo. The Royal Geographical Society (London) hears that the frequent deaths of Europeans on the international establishment on the river has necessitated a succession of new appointments. Just before Lieutenant de Brazza's arrival with the French expedition the agents of the Belgian International Association had taken possession of an important position on the Loango coast—viz., the mouth of the Kuilu—which M. de Brazza had intended to secure as the starting point for his direct road, *via* the Niari Valley, to the navigable waters of the Congo above the Falls; but finding Kuilu occupied he proceeded some twenty miles further south to Loango and Puerta Negra, where the French flag was hoisted.

Saturday, August 18, 1883.

JAMES CROSSLEY.

BORN AT HALIFAX, MARCH 30, 1800: DIED
AUGUST 1, 1883.

Farewell, and happy welcome to those shades
Where many a kindred spirit for thee waits,
The silent wise and good, congenial mates
Long known and well, not in the flesh that fades,
But in the changeless spirit which pervades
Their written works. "Art thou also become
As one of us?" they ask. In thy new home
Do these not know thee now as we did here?

Death may exalt, not change the character.
Untrammell'd by the flesh, the wit more keen,
Knowledge more ample, fancy yet more free,
The genial nature, all that we have seen
And long since learned to love, they love and see,
Hallowed and heighten'd in that clime serene.

J. W. S.

NOTES.

RECOLLECTIONS AND ANECDOTES OF JAMES
CROSSLEY.

[3,206.] I have known Mr. Crossley a great many years, and have once or twice seen him buy wholesacks full of old books in Shudehill Market. We did not move in the same circle, however, and consequently I had no opportunity of making his acquaintance. But soon after he came to live at Stocks House, on the Cheetham Hill Road, I was introduced to him in the omnibus by Mr. William Evans, of the *Evening News*, and from that time we were on very friendly terms. When we met again in the omnibus we usually had a good deal of chat about old books, old times, or old Manchester, but he sometimes complained about people who wrote their recollections of Manchester not always adhering to the truth, and that one volume he named in particular required a great deal of correction.

He was aware that I had written an article on the antiquity of bowling and bowling-greens, which had been published in the *Evening News* and afterwards printed in pamphlet form for private circulation, and he inquired one day if I could give him a copy. In reply I told him that I had given nearly all of them away, but I would try to find him one and call with it the first time I walked down to town. This was in the first of the three very severe winters we had a few years ago, and one morning, when the road was slippery, I thought I would not help to punish the 'bus horses, but would walk down and

call on Mr. Crossley. This I managed to do between nine and ten, and found him at his desk in a large room and nearly as far from the fire and window as he could get, and without spectacles, making quotations from an old black-letter book. On one occasion I inquired if he remembered the old Bridgewater Arms Hotel, in High-street, which once had a large coaching establishment connected with it. He replied, "Very well," and that he had dined there several times, as his father used to come there from Halifax on market-days, and sometimes, when he was a boy, bring him along with him. Two years ago he told me about spending an afternoon on the Kersal bowling-green a few days before, and when I said, "I should think you don't bowl much now," he replied, "No, but I meet several of my old friends and dine with them and spend a pleasant afternoon."

The last time I saw him, about three months ago, I was telling him that I had a commission from a gentleman to purchase all Canon Parkinson's works, and that I had been trying to find them for twelve months without success. He replied, "Well, I will see what I can do for you. I think I can find them if any one can." I expressed my thanks and told him the price would not be much an object if he could obtain them. A few weeks after this I was in company with one of the principal old booksellers in Shudehill Market and was telling him what Mr. Crossley had said, and he replied (no doubt from experience), "Well, you may rest assured that he won't spend a pound if he can get what you want for nineteen shillings." I have not heard from him since, however, and most likely he has gone to his rest without being able to execute his self-undertaken commission. I fear that his place in the archaeological, antiquarian, and literary societies where he used to move will not be easy to supply.

ROBERT WOOD.

Broughton Place, Cheetham Hill.

* * *

The following anecdote, associating the late Mr. Crossley with the Reverend Joshua Brooks, known by repute as the eccentric parson of "the Old Church," and whose characteristics are so happily portrayed in Mrs. Banks's tale of *The Manchester Man*, may be deemed worthy of a place in your columns. Those who have not seen it before will probably welcome it as another testimony to the instances lately quoted of the character and extent of Mr. Crossley's reading when even a boy. There

are many also who will doubtless be glad to have recalled another incident in the early life of one who was so justly renowned for his great learning, and so widely revered, though by many of us "afar off." The extract is from Canon Parkinson's *Old Church Clock* (second edition, 1844):—

A bashful youth, of about sixteen years of age, ignorant of the world, but with a mind omnivorous of the great feast of knowledge, had just arrived in Manchester, and was timidly cheapening, at a book-stall, a copy of Bull's *Defensio Fidei Nicenæ*. Joshua, who was standing by, raised his shaggy forehead (it may be interesting to the reader to know that he was designated by Dr. Parr as "the gentleman with the straw-coloured eyebrows") and with an approving smile said, "You need not be afraid of giving too much for that book, my lad; but you ought to buy this with it" (pointing to a copy of Outram, *De Sacrificiis*); "they ought to go together. The Unitarians, if they were to write till Doomsday, can never answer them." It is hardly necessary to add that the books were bought, read, and are still carefully treasured by him who was thus addressed. That bashful youth is now an honour to his town and an ornament to the literature of his country.

S. D. L.

Longsight.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LANCASHIRE PERIODICALS.

(Query No. 3,205, August 11.)

[3,207.] The *Manchester Figaro* began October 6, 1880, and continued under that title till January 14, 1881, after which date the title was changed to the *Lancashire Figaro*. The last number is dated July 20, 1882. *Comus*.—The first number appeared October 2, 1877. The title was altered on March 7, 1878, to *Momus*. It died October 5, 1882. The first number of *Buzz* came out on July 1st, 1882.

C. W. S.

* * *

A few additional particulars about these local periodicals beyond the dates may be of interest to Mr. COOPER MORLEY or to other of your readers. The *Lancashire Figaro* was begun by the Oxford-street Printing Company, with Mr. H. A. Duffy as editor, and Mr. Pearce Jones, under the signature of "Lem," as the artist. The paper was then called the *Manchester Figaro*. Upon Mr. Duffy's relinquishing the editorship the paper passed into the hands of Messrs. Flanagan and Mutteen, of Peter-street, and, under the editorship of Mr. Oscar H. Schou, assumed its later title of the *Lancashire Figaro*, was increased in size, its price raised to twopence, and the illustrations printed in colours. Mr. Schou began to turn

his attention to dramatic writing, translating French plays for London managers, and the like; and the editorship of the *Figaro* passed into the hands of Mr. Beddoes Peacock. Just before Mr. Peacock's accession, it was, I believe, contemplated to cease issuing the paper. However, at his hands it received an infusion of new life, and continued its existence until the end of July last year. Mr. Pearce Jones ("Lem") now draws for two or three papers in the South of England, and Mr. Beddoes Peacock has, for the time, laid down his pen.

Momus had a considerably longer life than the *Figaro*, being published for about five years. It was preceded by *Comus*, a paper started by Mr. Gibbons, which ran for about a year, and when for some cause it was discontinued, it had given such promise of success under the editorship of Mr. F. M. Hyman, illustrated by the singularly clever drawings of Mr. W. G. Baxter, then about twenty years old, that the two were enabled, under the proprietorship of an estimable relative of Mr. Baxter, to start and carry on *Momus*. After a while Mr. Hyman severed his connection with the paper, and his place was filled by Mr. Joseph Fox, under whose able directorship the paper was carried on for about two years, during which time a series of portraits of public and notable men in and about Manchester appeared in the pages of *Momus*, drawn in Mr. Baxter's best style, and they form an attractive and interesting collection, accompanied as they are by biographical notices, generally well written by those personally acquainted with their subjects. The series was intermittently continued under the editorship of Mr. Fox's successor, Mr. Robert Clarke Rayson, whose failing health often hindered him in his work, and he gave up the editorship into my hands after holding it for about ten months. After holding the post for over a year I resigned to join the staff of the ill-fated *North Times*. Owing partly perhaps to this, partly to the fact that Mr. Baxter had taken up his residence in London, and partly to the difficulties caused by a defaulting clerk, the paper was for the time discontinued, and has not since reappeared, although the proprietor has, I believe, not relinquished the intention of reproducing it.

Buzz was a venture of Mr. E. Morgan's, the then editor of the *City Lantern*, and was intended to try whether or not a halfpenny weekly paper would be made to pay. It had a life of about eight or nine weeks.

Of the people mentioned in connection with *Monus*, Mr. Baxter is achieving success in London, Mr. Hyman is ably conducting *Sale and Exchange*, Mr. Joseph Fox is writing plays and successfully managing a theatrical company for Messrs. Wilmot and Holt, and Mr. Rayson was laid to rest in Brooklands Cemetery about twelve months ago. JAMES BAILEY.

REGENT ROAD BRIDGE.

(Query No. 3,202, August 11.)

[3,208.] This bridge was opened free to the public on the first of June, 1855. In the Peel Park Library there is framed, with a suitable inscription, the last penny paid for toll at this bridge by Mr. James King, V.S., of Belfast, and presented to the Library by Mr. Thomas Chadwick, the secretary to the committee for freeing the bridge. The last halfpenny paid for toll is also in the Library, having been presented by Alderman Jenkinson. In connection with this matter it may be of interest to mention that the toll-bar at the Woolpack Inn, Eccles Old Road, was opened free on the first of July, 1870; and the last two toll pennies paid at midnight on the 30th of June are preserved in the Peel Park Library.

G. H. H.

AUTHORSHIP OF POEM.

(Query No. 3,204, August 11.)

[3,209.] G. R. T. will find the lines

Can the forest birds forget their sweetest songs?

When this shall be, then thou shalt be forgot—

in a poem written by the Rev. John Moultrie. The poem was set to music by Mr. John Blockley and published as a song under the title of "Forget thee?" by Messrs. Chappell and Co. E. W.

* * *

There is a certain sentimental song by Mr. Moultrie, beginning—

Forget thee! if to dream by night

And muse on thee by day—

which contains lines similar to those quoted by G. R. T. The title of the piece is "Forget Thee!" and the second verse reads as follows:—

Forget thee! Bid the forest bird

Forget its sweetest tune;

Forget thee! Bid the sea forget

To swell beneath the moon;

Bid thirsty flowers forget to drink

Of eve's refreshing dew;

Thyself forget thine own fair land,

And mountains wild and blue;

Forget each old familiar face,

Each long remembered spot.

When these things are forgot by thee,

Then thou shalt be forgot.

E. KEAL.

OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS.

(Query No. 2,884, October 21, 1882.)

[3,210.] The phrase "pouring oil on the troubled waters," or rather the idea contained therein, may be traced in the Venerable Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, book iii, chapter 15. An English translation of this valuable chronicle may be found in the Free Reference Library, King-street. The original (in Latin) was written in the eighth century. XIPHIAS.

* * *

The oldest allusion I have met with is in Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, book iii., chapter 15. Utta, a priest, was ordered to Kent, to bring from thence, as wife for King Oswy, Eanfleda, daughter of King Edwin. He was to return with her by sea, and asked Bishop Aidan to offer up prayers for him and his company. Bede says:—

He [Aidan], blessing and recommending them to our Lord, at the same time gave them some holy oil saying, "I know that when you go abroad you will meet with a storm and contrary winds; but do you remember to cast this oil I give you into the sea, and the wind shall cease immediately, you will have pleasant, calm weather, and return safe." All which fell out as the bishop had predicted. For in the first place, the winds raging, the sailors endeavoured to ride it out at anchor, but all to no purpose; for the sea breaking in on all sides, and the ship beginning to fill with water, they all concluded that certain death was at hand. The priest, at last remembering the bishop's words, laid hold of the phial and cast some of the oil into the sea, which, as had been foretold, became presently calm.

EDWIN BANCROFT.

Oldham.

QUERIES.

[3,211.] BLOCKING A BILL IN PARLIAMENT.—What is the process of blocking a bill in the House of Commons; and what is the effect? W. S.

[3,212.] PARCELS POST.—Why is this new venture of the Post Office dubbed Parcels Post (plural), instead of being in the singular to match Book Post, Letter Post, and Sample Post? P. O.

[3,213.] THE MAHOMETAN LAW OF DESCENT. What is the law of descent among Mahometans? Is it the same for the Sultan's, or the head of the State's, family, as for the offspring of their subjects? H. R. FORREST.

[3,214.] ELLENBROOK.—What is the origin of the place-name "Ellenbrook" forming part of the village of Worsley? In an old map published about 1684 it is written Ellynbrugh; has it anything to do with the Elder, Ellan, or Low Saxon Ellhorn, (*Sambucus Nigra*)? P. C.

[3,215.] OLD CHURCH NEAR RIBCHESTER.—There is an old church, of rude construction, within about a mile of Ribchester Church, and about the same distance from the Ribble, up the stream, which was reputed, when I resided in the neighbourhood as a boy, to be “a thousand years old—much older than Ribchester Church.” Architecturally it is insignificant. The windows are long and narrow, with square heads; the walls are of rubble, and white-washed; there is a thick stock of ivy at what I may call the east end; the furnishing is paltry and uninteresting; and taken as a whole, to a common observer, the building does not look as if it had existed more than a hundred years, to say nothing of a thousand. Can any reader give me information about it?

R. F.

OUR LOCAL DR. JOHNSON.

[JAMES CROSSLEY.]

With the disappearance from the society and streets of Manchester of “our local Dr. Johnson,” there drops away a mental and physical individuality which, as it has had no parallel in the memory of the oldest of us, so it is not likely to be repeated during the lifetime of the youngest. With us but not of us—not of us, that is to say, in any circles wide enough to make him familiar—the great gain which Manchester derived from this pink sage was the indirect one of example in respect of the love of books. Perhaps, if we said the whole love of books, that perfect love which casteth out discrimination of their contents, we should not err. But even the good example of “our local Dr. Johnson” in respect of books was not a missionary example which could affect the public and make them ready to do likewise. This harmonious biblical blacksmith blew his bellows by stealth. His forge was velvet, his hammer of Australian wool—altogether a silent stithy.

He did not, in his pursuits, say to the cotton lords, “Take up your spindles and follow me.” To him it was a matter of indifference whether they followed him or not. He preferred that they should lay down wine and lay the cloth for dinner, and permit him personally to assist at the transaction when complete. “Our local Dr. J.” was kindly disposed towards men of a biblically low estate. He was not “*primus inter pares*,” because the “*pares*” or peers were not to be had. He felt a relief in the thought

that his chosen companions were intellectually unlikely to bore him about books. So he tackled them about roast duck:—“A most acceptable bird. Sir, though obviously indebted to the gravy, Sir, for its finest effects.” Our pink sage—in combination with the onion, and discoursing thereon—was listened to with profound admiration by his boon companions, who referred to the discourse at other dinner parties as a sort of mixture of Charles Lamb with the Aurora Borealis. Whenever we had the great privilege of meeting our local Lexicographer, he always appeared to suffer by his well-meant attempts to let himself down to the level of his fellows. On these occasions there was a pleasing imbecility about his features which seemed to say, “Do not manifest any apprehension in approaching me, Sir; bodily harm I will not do you, Sir; no lethal weapon is concealed about my person.” We almost expected him to finish up with “Selah.” We have noticed, and must be pardoned for stating it—not we hope unkindly—that it is now and then the attribute of men of genius, and also of men of deep piety, when they become the cynosures of admiring eyes, to put on a petrefacted imbecility of feature which might appal the stoutest idiot when requested to reproduce it. Our local Lexicographer did not exactly do this, but when his countenance was in repose, it looked as if it had not been relaxed with an idea for several weeks, and as if there would be little chance of an emotional visitation this side Christmas. To us he never seemed to slide or glide into the current talk of a dinner-table, but rather to strike into it like a clock, and keep on striking until he had done, leaving behind for a moment that intestinal hum common to clocks when they have got another hour off their stomachs. The Dean of Manchester has alluded to the “vast stores of learning” of our departed local Dr. Johnson; and it is not for us to contradict a senior wrangler and Church dignitary, even if we wished. It is very much to the credit of our local Dr. J., that having these “vast stores of learning” he did not presume upon them in his intercourse with his neighbours, but modestly for the most part kept them to himself; tied them up as it were and put them away in bundles.

It was our local doctor’s happy lot to be able to devote himself to his books and the Past. If Longfellow had requested the sage to act in the living Present, the sage, except at dinner-time, would have respectfully declined. Our modern occupations and

concerns, "the weariness, the fever, and the fret—here where men sit and hear each other groan"—were uncongenial to our philosopher. He put the Irish, for instance, into a sort of siding. "We will resume this topic, sir, by-and-bye, but I may remark that I am prepossessed with the wit of Curran, Sir, and that Dublin Bay haddock roasted, sir—roasted—remains amongst my proudest recollections. Selah."

No one has a right to animadvert upon the abstinence or otherwise of his neighbour in what are called charitable efforts, which no doubt are frequently of the misdirected order. There are those of us who hesitate to give to local charities, partly no doubt because we are stingy, and partly because so much of the money falls out by the way before it can get to the man at the wayside who has got amongst thieves. It is no reflection upon our local Lexicographer, therefore, to say that he confined his charitable efforts to the relief of the book-sellers of such volumes as they would part with cheaply, and to such comfort to his fellow-creatures as could be communicated through the Chetham Society in very elegant and scholarly addresses. In our public life, as it is called, our local Lexicographer took small interest. He did not require a smoked glass to look at the Mayor, for fear of being blinded. He was a man of too much natural force and acquired knowledge to attract the notice of those who make magistrates. We do not know that he was ever even a churchwarden; but if he were, any sidesman during his official term would have been superfluous. His political and religious opinions were no doubt tied together in bundles in his own mind and stacked up, not necessarily for publication, as the newspapers say, but in good faith. The Dean tells us that "the Doctor" was "an orthodox churchman," whilst the Conservative Club, corporately manifesting sorrow at his grave, permitted a tear to trickle down its deep blue nose, for our political brother here departed. Under the duplicate advantages of clergy and club, the friends of the brave old gentleman may rest satisfied; even though unlike the old church, he cannot be restored.

The good old book hunter will be missed in a community, the depressing monotony of which he did much to mitigate. He did this perhaps more by simply going in and out amongst us than by anything he either said or performed. His presence in the street, when one came to town in a morning (we often caught him nosing books at Sutton's, a biblical game-

preserve at the corner of Portland-street), was to the present writer at least a health and refreshment. A whiff of old tomes and quartos then broke in upon the vehicular "stenk"—as the Scotch call it—of the Manchester Health and Mutual Improvement Committee, for which we had to thank the great Lexicographer. We can see him now, stealing off like a sly Reynard to the next book roost, until he settled down for the day in his haunt at the Chetham Library. Of that quaint, sequestered, old-world retreat our local Dr. Johnson was without doubt the *genius loci*. He informed the Chetham Library, whether the latter returned the compliment or not. The books seemed to know him, as the patients at the Infirmary knew Dr. Lund, and requested the honour of being handled and looked at and stethoscopically looked into. Even the veteran Chanticleer at the Chetham Hospital, whose shrill clarion, we are told, can now only be extorted by the smell of roast beef, is believed to have regarded "the Doctor" as "plump head waiter of the Cock," and to have conjured him to get as fat as he could on the produce of Lusitanian summers.

Since his decease, our local Dr. Johnson has been called "this venerable gentleman" and so on. We never regarded him in that light; he was too wholesome and rosy to be classed with the "lean and slippered" species. Similarly we find it impossible to regard our Bishop as an old man. Neither Dr. Fraser nor our local Doctor J., unless one looked up their birth rolls, would fall into that category; and when they essayed old men's parts, they had to efface their natural selves during that interval. The one "doctor" is said to have maintained his voluminous dimensions and farm-yard vitality by celibacy and bread and milk and the banishment of tobacco. How the other and much the junior doctor, who is happily left to us, but whose monitive words a week or two ago struck a dismal chord through this diocese, manages to put back, in appearance at least, the inevitable horologe, we have no right to inquire. But the great auctioneer which ultimately knocks us all down—"this desirable lot," and that "well-known family mansion"—is always in the rostrum. Many old lots in this city of Manchester have been disposed of latterly—Peter Spence, John Pooley, and now our local Dr. Johnson. In such an hour as we know not, the hammer falls. Let us be ready!

J. F. T.

Saturday, August 25, 1883.

NOTE.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: FETTER LANE.

[3,216.] Referring to my note on this street, in which note I show that the street derives its name from "Fetter Lane" in London, I venture to think that the following extract from the elder D'Israeli's essay, entitled "Names of our Streets," given in his *Curiosities of Literature*, will be of interest in this series:—

FETTER LANE has been erroneously supposed to have some connection with the "fetters" of criminals. It was in Charles the First's time written "Fewtor Lane," and is so in Howel's *Londinopolis*, who explains it as "Fewtors" (or idle people) lying there as in a way leading to gardens. It was the haunt of these "Faitors," or "mighty beggars." The "Faitour," that is a "defaytor" or defaulter, became "Fewtor;" and in the rapid pronunciation, or conception of names, "Fewtor" has ended in "Fetter Lane."

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

APPLEBY'S POEMS.

Nos. 3,200 and 3,173.

[3,217.] The reply of ION to this query "brings strange memories to my mind." I remember the volume appearing and being smartly reviewed in one of our papers. The author, at the time, was understood to be a local man, and the book bears some internal evidence of this, notably an "ode" to "Charles Calvert, Esq., Tragedian."

All praise to those whom praise is due,
And such, Calvert Charles, be unto you.

Whatever may be the literary merits of the "Poems," ION is singularly infelicitous in terming them dull. There is not a dull line in the book, far otherwise; they are calculated rather to excite feelings of cheerfulness in the reader, even to hilarity. Here is a touching extract from the first poem, "Boyhood's Days,"

And then when the winter came, O
What fun we had with ice and snow!
All on the ice merrily skating, sliding,
And each other giving many a hiding.

There is a particularly gruesome piece, the gem of the volume, under the remarkable title of the "Pot of Woes," which, in the language of the showman,

"is worth all the money." In fact the book altogether well deserves a passing remark, and once read will not easily be forgotten.

H. B. R.

Moss Side.

BLOCKING A BILL IN PARLIAMENT.

(Query No. 3,211, August 18.)

[3,218.] The provision as to the blocking of bills in the House of Commons, which has been so extensively made use of this session, principally by Mr. Warton, was introduced, if I mistake not, in the new rules for the conduct of the business of Parliament passed during the special autumn session last year. The rule is to the effect that what is called "opposed business" shall not be begun after half-past twelve o'clock at night. Consequently a member has merely to intimate on the notice paper that he shall oppose a certain bill—or, rather, propose that the second reading shall be postponed for six months—and by so doing he blocks its progress, and virtually vetoes legislation on the subject. The *Spectator*, in an article upon blocking, says:—

It may, of course, be answered that the bill may still be debated at a reasonable hour. But such a consolation is illusory. It is all that the Government can do to carry through the House within the reasonable limits of a session some half-dozen measures which they conceive to be of first-rate importance, and to obtain the supplies of money necessary for the administration of the country. All the time which the Administration has at command must be devoted to these objects, and it is almost impossible to procure the discussion of minor measures before midnight. For private members the case is still worse. Practically, their opportunities of legislation seem to be limited to Wednesdays, and then they are at the mercy of three or four sturdy talkers. A bill which is generally approved has no chance of being even explained to the House, if a single member, from dislike of the measure or its proposer, or from mere caprice, likes to stand in the way; and though half an hour's discussion might pass it without a division, nay, though no discussion at all is wanted to recommend it to the House, it is absolutely deprived of all chance of becoming law.

Why, it will be asked, was such a rule enacted? The *Spectator* answers that it took the place of a still more monstrous system, which it thus describes:—

When opposed bills could be brought on for discussion at any time of the night—or rather morning—the Government had the power to harass a minority almost out of their lives. By putting the bill on the notice paper night after night and not bringing it on, they could tire out all but the most persistent opponents, and when the objecting minority had been wearied out by repeated fruitless attendances till three in the morning, could select some opportunity when vigilance was relaxed to force the measure through the House without

discussion. The Inclosure Bill of 1869, which signed away the inheritance of the people over 13,000 acres of common land without any appreciable equivalent, was stopped only at the cost of weeks of protracted waiting and watching, which would have been spared had the present half-past twelve rule been in force. As passing a bad bill, as a rule, does more harm than stopping a good one, the system of blocking probably leads to better results than the practice previously existing.

Still it is obvious that the new blocking rule, which places such an enormous power in the hands of a single member, is not an ideally perfect remedy for the old abuse, and some modification of the existing stringent provision is desirable. The writer I have quoted suggests that notice of rejection should have the sanction of at least half a dozen members, and that the right of blocking might also, without unfairness, be confined to one, or at most two, stages of a bill.

ION.

THE MAHOMETAN LAW OF DESCENT.

(Query No. 3,213, August 18.)

[3,219.] Answers to this query, including the minutest particulars, may be found in the works of the late Sir W. H. Macnaghten, as edited by H. H. Wilson, late Professor of Sanscrit in the University of Oxford; and in the late Mr. Lane's *Modern Egyptians*. Mr. Sale, in his edition of the Koran, gives copious and learned notes upon this and kindred subjects, but according to Mr. Lane he is not invariably correct. Avoiding a lengthy and tedious digest, I will cite a few of the leading directions of the Mahometan law of inheritance.

In the first place, the Mahometans have no law of primogeniture, differing in this respect from the Hebrews, who give to the eldest son a double portion. In the second place, no distinction is made between what we call real and personal, nor between inherited and acquired property. No person can bequeath by will more than one-third of his or her property, unless such person be without heir or heiress; neither can he make a will in favour of one son, or heir, to the prejudice of his other sons or heirs, without their consent. Sons take share and share alike, and so do the daughters, with the restriction that the latter take only half as much as the former. This duplicate proportion between the sexes obtains in all cases where the degree of relationship to the person from whom inheritance is claimed is the same. If the children of a deceased person happen to be all of them females, they inherit together two-thirds of the property; and

if there should be only one daughter she takes one half. Amongst one of the two main sects of Mahometans, the Sunnites, the female heir, or heirs, can inherit the whole in such a case. If the deceased should leave only one child, or a son's child, then one-sixth of his property goes to his father, another sixth to his mother; but if the deceased's father be dead the grandfather, if living, takes his sixth; and if the mother be dead, her sixth goes to the grandmother. If a person should leave no children, or sons' children, his wife, or wives, as the case may be, inherit one-fourth of his property, his mother one-third, and his father the remainder. If the deceased should leave children, or sons' children, the widow, or widows, take only one-eighth. The husband takes one-half his deceased wife's property after the payment of legacies, if she leave no children or sons' children.

It should never be forgotten that the wives of Mahometans have always been entitled to hold property in their own right. I am acquainted with a few other features of Mahometan social polity that Christians might with some advantage imitate. Mahometan government is as much a theocracy as was that of the Hebrews, and the laws being founded upon or deduced from the Koran are equally binding upon princes and people. No doubt, as in some other governments one knows of, might is sometimes mistaken for right. There is a story told, however, of a Sultan of the Ottomans, who was also Caliph, that when some land which belonged to a poor widow was wanted to inclose in the grounds of the Seraglio, and she obstinately refused to alienate the inheritance of her forefathers, he (the Caliph) would not allow it to be taken from her at any price whatever.

For some time after the death of the Prophet the Caliphate was elective, but since it fell to the Sultan of Turkey, nearly six hundred years ago, it has remained by descent in the family of Ottoman from father to son without a single break in the line.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

QUERIES.

[3,220.] "FATHER."—Why is the prefix "father" given to Roman Catholic clergymen? H. T. T.

[3,321.] SPENCER'S TAVERN. — Where was Spencer's Tavern situate in Manchester 1794? There is ground for the belief that it was in the neighbourhood of St. Anne's Square, or within sound of St.

Anne's Church clock when striking the hour. A tavern at one time stood in St. Anne's-street on the site now occupied by Mr. Orme, billiard table maker, and was known as the Buck and Hawthorn. Was this known about 1794 as Spencer's Tavern? B.

[3,222.] MR. CROSSLEY'S MAGNUM OPUS.—I have frequently heard the late Mr. James Crossley in after-dinner speeches and conversations allude to his "Magnum Opus," intended, he said, for posthumous publication. In it many Lancashire eccentrics and celebrities are depicted from his own observation, and it only requires some loving friend like Mr. J. Eglington Bailey to edit the work in order to command a ready sale. Is it likely to be published? E. O. B.

CHIEF Brow.

[3,223.] TOKENS.—I send herewith descriptions of four tokens which I have in my possession, and which may perhaps interest your readers:—No. 1. On the obverse the inscription "Charles Roe established the Copper Works 1758," with a man's head; on the reverse "Macclesfield Halfpenny 1790," with a figure seated with a cogwheel in one hand and a boring tool in the other. No. 2. On the obverse Gregory III., Pon., with a George III. head; on the reverse "Dublin (indistinct) Rules, 1771," figure, Britannia. No. 3. "Success to Navigation;" reverse, "Manchester Halfpenny 1793." No. 4. On the obverse "Quocunque Jeceris Stabit," with the Manx crest and the initials "J. D.;" on the reverse "Sans Changer 1733," with the Eagle and Child crest. I should be glad of any information respecting them.

W. F. K.

A BOOKSELLER'S EXPERIENCES OF MR. CROSSLEY.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I have read several articles in the various Manchester papers on the late James Crossley, or as "J. F. T." in last Saturday's *City News* calls him, "Our local Dr. Johnson," and truly he may be called so if we may compare the build of the two men, but beyond that I think there is no comparison except as a lover of books, and a Bibliomaniac in every sense of the word. I don't wish to be, nor do I in any way court the appearance of, a detractor of the late venerable President of the Chetham Society, but I like to read something about the man as he was and as we knew him in his every-day dealings amongst the Booksellers, and with that object in view I propose to write of him just as I found him,

from the time I carried the first parcel of books to his house in Booth-street as a boy to the present time.

I have a lively remembrance of Booth-street, Piccadilly, and other places he removed to, as it fell to my lot to carry the parcels of books to his house, but I never remember him lightening the load by a copper, and the impression created then, as a boy, can be better imagined than described. I fail to find any trait of great generosity or benevolence about the old gentleman, and to the last of the chapter there seemed to me something of the miser in him.

By the Booksellers generally he was not looked up to with that degree of pleasure that one usually feels when a known book-buyer goes into his shop. It was a common practice with many booksellers, if they saw him about, to put away any late purchases of a choice class, so that he should not see them at all, for the simple reason that he generally wanted them for half their value; and this habit of running the bookseller down was the cause of him losing many a valuable literary treasure that now adorns the shelves of more liberal purchasers. For the information of collectors it is as well for them to know that the gems are kept for those of a liberal disposition, and those who are known to be of a bantering tendency never have the ghost of a chance of acquiring them. When I have remonstrated with J. C. on his practice of offering about one-third the price asked for a scarce work, he would say, "Well, you see, I buy a great many books, and all I save out of this purchase will be so much towards buying some more."

A well-known Shudehill bookseller in his day used to resort to the following plan to get something like the value of the books he might want. When a library had been purchased, all the best books were carefully selected and placed on one side as though they had been chosen by someone. When J. C. came round he was shown the late purchase, and he would go through them all one by one, and sometimes had two or three books in his hands at once. When he had finished them he would go the usual round of the shop, and, as a matter of course, he would find the treasures in some out-of-the-way place that he seemed instinctively to get into. Of course he was given to understand that they could not be sold till the gentleman had decided about them. The result was, he would call every day till he finally got what he wanted at the price asked. The same bookseller purchased the whole of the books, about 5,000, collected by the late Mr. Mason, who will be remembered as keeping a dingy kind of bread and cheese shop in Shudehill, opposite High-street. Mr. Crossley had the first turn at them. They were in a filthy state, in thorough keeping with the habits of the man who had collected them, but dust and dirt

were no detriment to J. C. He went down on his knee-bones in the midst of them, throwing those he wanted in a heap to one side, and the others were piled in a confused mass. When he had finished this feast, if any of his bibliographical friends had seen him they would have hardly recognized him in his dusty coat, his face begrimed nearly as black as a sweep's.

I remember another time, some seven years ago, I had bought about 7,000 vols., and had put them in an upstairs room on the floor in rows, one row on another. A note was forwarded to J. C. He was so anxious to see them that he had taken a cab so that he should be the first, but lo and behold, the stairs were so narrow he could not get his portly body up. However, he was not to be defeated in his object. After some ten minutes or a quarter of an hour's puffing and blowing and wriggling about, and with the gentle help of my shoulder, he managed to get up to the room, and there I left him to gloat over those gods he had devoted his life to.

I have known him to come to my shop day after day and week after week for one book that we could not agree about as to price. He would invariably look over a few of the shelves, and then make his way to the shelf where the coveted volume lay. He would take it out and glance rapidly through its pages, and put it carefully back again. For fun I have many a time moved it away to some other place, and when he has come in again he would go to the same spot he saw it in last. Many a laugh I have had watching him. When he has found it gone he would rapidly scan over the various books in the immediate vicinity and get quite fidgety. If he was unsuccessful in his search, he would ask for it, and this generally brought him to his senses.

He carried the practice of running my father down in the price of books to such an extent that he was compelled to request him not to come into the shop any more. It was amusing to see him pass the shop two or three times, and finally he would stop and hunt through the books on the stall, meekly paying the price asked, and so things would go on until there was the same old bantering down of price, which finally ended in the same polite request not to come in the shop again. But he could not resist it, and so it was to the end.

He was fond of making a boast of the bargains he had got from time to time from booksellers, and others who had sold him books privately; and he laid stress on the fact that he did not care to buy of booksellers but preferred private people to offer their books to him, because as a rule they did not know what their value was, and consequently he had a better chance of getting a bargain on his own terms.

To his housekeeper J. C. has left the sum of £200.

W. T. J.

Saturday, September 1, 1883.

NOTES.

THE SHOE IN SCRIPTURE.

[3,224.] "Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe." This occurs twice in the Psalms, and I had heard it so frequently read, said, or chanted, that one Sunday I paused to consider what it might mean. Of the first part I could get no explanation, and I discovered that the general hazy belief was that washpot was a pot for washing in. Therewithal everybody was content, and I was perforce compelled to say or sing away "that Moab was my washpot, and that over Edom would I cast out my shoe," without the smallest inkling of the meaning of what I was saying or singing. At last, however, in the course of miscellaneous reading, I found that formerly in the Temple at London, for many years the washpots were the lowest scullions, those that literally washed the pots.

Both Eadie and Kitto gravely inform me, from this very passage as their authority, that it was a Jewish custom to throw a sandal over a conquered country as a sign of subjugation. But evidently Edom, in the true Oriental fashion, is a personification, like Moab, of an individual. Hence I would suggest a very simple explanation. When a guest arrived at the door of a tent or house one of the meanest of the slaves knelt down and unfastened the thongs—latchets, laases, laces—that bound the sandals to the feet. The guest would naturally then kick off and out from the threshold over the back of the slave each sandal in turn. The slave, already girt with a soft towel, would then proceed to bathe in cool water and to anoint with fragrant oil or unguent the hot, dry, dusty feet, to prevent sores or cracking of the skin and to avoid the staining of the rich carpets or tori on which the guests reclined. A pair of embroidered slippers would be given him for in-door wear, or one of the guest's own slaves may have brought these.

This explains the peculiar appropriateness of John Baptist's saying as to the sandals of Christ; the command, "shake the dust from your feet," as a testimony against refusal of the most ordinary office of hospitality; of Simon the Pharisee's ostentatious contempt and Mary's thoughtful service in valeting her Master as an Emperor of Rome might have been. Not only

a lesson of humility but of hospitality was given to the disciples by their Master when, as if he had been their humblest slave, he washed and dried their feet. And lastly, washing the saints' feet is mentioned with high commendation as an act of the most Christian consideration, if it were not actually a part of the early Christian communion service.

One use of the shoe cannot be omitted. In the beautiful account of Boaz and Ruth the custom is illustrated of handing a "shoe" from one to another as earnest of the conclusion of an agreement. It was a very old custom, and had its parallel in the Middle Ages in a similar use of the glove, most probably as being more convenient. As the Orientals sat in the gate, cross-legged no doubt, the shoe would be the readiest article to pass from one to another.

The real reason for the command to take off the sandal on holy ground would very likely be found in the necessity, in hot eastern and pastoral countries, of enforcing cleanliness by divine command. Pollution meant cholera, typhoid, plague, or other of those visitations which are to this day too ready to infect the eastern air and poison the eastern water, and then to come into unswept and ungarnished Europe. The origin of cholera is said to be found at some holy shrines near the springs of the Ganges, where the accumulated filth of thousands of pilgrims breeds a disease which the presence of many unburied corpses goes on to make peculiarly malignant. It then starts out on its journey of extermination, and gains force by going.

It is not necessary to more than allude to one strange custom in early Hebrew days—the loosing of the shoe of the brother or nearest male relation of one who had left a childless widow. Whatever its significance it would seem that the loosing of the shoe and the consequent soubriquet were symbols of an unfulfilled legal obligation. It is not the place here—if, indeed, it is the place anywhere—to discuss the bearing of a curious Hebrew custom on an English social law.

W. D.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SPENCER'S TAVERN IN 1794.

(Query No. 3,321, August 25.)

[3,225.] If "B" will refer to the Manchester and Salford Directory of 1788 (or Lewis's reprint of it) he will find where this tavern was six years before the time he names. It is thus given:—"Spencer, William, Spencer's Tavern, Market Place." This,

from its position, must be the one "B" refers to. It does not seem to have been a house much used by the commercial men of the day, as it is not named in the list of houses where the "Country Tradesmen attending the Manchester Market" were to be found. No mention in this directory is made of the Buck and Hawthorn Tavern. There is a Buck Inn, Queen-street, St. Anne's, kept by George Heywood. I fancy this Buck and Hawthorn, however, will be identical with the Beech and Hawthorn alluded to in the reminiscences of old Manchester of the late Mr. Aston, published some little time ago in the *Manchester Examiner*. The date then mentioned is 1814, but it is spoken of as an established house and doing a "roaring trade," along with the Lord Hill and Half Moon, during the October Cattle Fair, then held in St. Anne's Square.

H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

BLOCKING A BILL IN PARLIAMENT.

(Nos. 3,211 and 3,218.)

[3,226.] A reader of the *City News*, as I assume Ion is, ought not to have copied the blunder of the *Spectator*, or to repeat it as his belief that the provision as to the blocking of bills "was introduced in the new rules during the special autumn session last year. The rule is to the effect that what is called 'opposed business' shall not be begun after half-past twelve o'clock at night." The autumn session, so far from being engaged in constructing the half-past twelve o'clock rule, spent some time, without success, in trying to frame conditions which should prevent the rule from being applied, as it had been for several years, in blocking bills. Let Ion, as his memory is evidently failing, turn to the *City News* of February 22, 1879 (four and a half years ago), and read the following passage:—"On Tuesday last in the House of Commons, at the instance of Mr. Mowbray, and after a division, what is known as the 'half-past twelve rule' was made a standing order. The effect of this rule will be that, except for a money bill, no opposed business may be entered upon after half-past twelve at night. This rule has been in operation during several sessions, but it has hitherto been necessary to move its adoption at the commencement of each session." It is not necessary to remark upon the method suggested in the *Spectator* to overcome the difficulty, because your readers will have noticed that it is as superficial and inadequate as its history was faulty and misleading. Both sides of the House want a way out of the difficulty, but how to find one

without bringing back the greater evil of providing a way by which important measures were formerly passed at a late hour through the House, often against public interests, is the problem. The House and its advisers outside have not yet been able to suggest a plan.

EUTHYPHRON.

QUERIES.

[3,227.] PARKFIELD HOUSE.—What is the history of this house, originally called Withington of Withington?

W. T.

[3,228.] NANGNAIL.—What is the derivation of the word "Nangnail," often used in this part of Lancashire, meaning a difficulty or an obstruction?

L. Leigh.

X. L. C. R.

[3,229.] CIRCUS-STREET.—Why does the short street which runs behind the Waterloo Hotel, Piccadilly, bear the name of Circus-street? I never knew there be an equestrian establishment in that locality, and the formation of the adjoining streets has nothing of a circular or crescent shape about it to suggest such a name.

E. W.

AMERICANS AND STERNE'S HOME.—A writer in the *Daily News*, in a description of the country between Scarborough and York, says few visitors from the United States who reach this part of the country neglect to visit the home of Sterne at the charming village of Coxwold, lying under the Hambleton Hills, near Crayke Castle and the ancient abbeys of Byland and Newburgh. The church in which Yorick preached his sermons and the pulpit from which he addressed his congregation remain intact, as well as the ancient monuments of the Belasyse family, the head of which, Lord Fauconberg, was Sterne's patron, to whom he addressed his amusing letters, sometimes from Coxwold, where he lived on the fat of the land, sometimes from London, whence he sent as neat a dish of gossip as could be arranged by the cleverest modern reporter *du high-life*, as the French designate him. More interesting than the church is Shandy Hall, the little, low-roomed house in which Sterne lived for seven years upon the good things which the worthy people around brought as gifts to their pastor, who wrote the *Sentimental Journey* and *Tristram Shandy* in a little room which has apparently been but slightly changed since he occupied it. Tradition will have it that he not only excogitated but actually wrote a great part of those celebrated works in the open air, sitting in a shady nook still pointed out by the natives. Sterne's memory must be worth a round sum annually to the Fauconberg Arms, but it is dollars that are sacrificed to the memory of Sterne, not English shillings.

Saturday, September 8, 1883.

NOTES.

"NECESSITY HAS NO LAW."

[3,230.] "Necessity has no law" originally meant "need admits of no start." "No law to vermin" means that the vermin is to be killed at once. The word is familiar enough in certain dialectic districts in this sense in connection with foot-races, when so many yards or seconds "law" or start are allowed. The Saxon name of outlaw was wolf's-head—a very significant one. He was to be killed at once and a price was paid for his head. See Chaucer's *Coke's Tale of Gamelyn*.

W. DOIG.

THE SHOE AND RICE AT WEDDINGS.

[3,231.] It may have been from the use of the sandal or shoe in concluding bargains and contracts that it continued to be employed at weddings to our own day. Old customs seem never altogether to die. The "broose," or race home on horseback at a wedding in Scotland, a memorial of the time when brides were stolen from a neighbouring tribe, is mentioned in Burns. The throwing of rice I would venture to explain simply in this way. When a bride was brought home from another and perhaps a hostile tribe, a truce would enable the long-feast and merry-making to be got over quietly. Before separating all would partake of the rice that was symbolic of inviolable hospitality, and that ensured the usual "law" or time allowance of start before any outbreak of hatred or revenge could be indulged in by either side.

W. DOIG.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

PARCEL POST OR PARCELS POST.

(Query No. 3,212, August 18.)

[3,232.] An inquirer asks relative to the use of the term parcels post by the Post Office. The term is employed by the Post Office because it appears in that form in the Act of Parliament. To the question whether parcel post is a more correct or suitable term I have nothing to say. POST OFFICE CLERK.

[Nevertheless the Post Office practice is not uniform. The new vermilion-coloured carts employed in Manchester are lettered "Parcel Post."—ED.]

"MOAB IS MY WASHPOT."

(Note No. 3,224, September 1.)

[3,233.] Your correspondent W. D. appears to conclude that "washpot" in the above passage has a

similar meaning to that formerly used, as he tells us, in the Temple kitchens. It certainly would make very good sense; but unfortunately the Hebrew word "seer" means a pot or basin. The passage is thus translated by Gesenius: "Moab shall be the pot of my washing," contemptuously said for "I will use it as the meanest vessel."

T. C. C.

CIRCUS-STREET.

(Query No. 3,229, September 1.)

[3,234.] There is evidently some reason for the name of this street. On an old map of Manchester, now before me, unfortunately not dated, but which I take to be of about eighty years ago, the street is plainly named, and on the side nearest Aytoun-street is a space marked "New Circus." In 1773 I understand that Philip Astley, with his equestrian troupe, visited Manchester. Can this have anything to do with the naming of the street? I think it would be before it was made, however.

H. B. R.

Moss Side.

* * *

Circus-street took its name from the amphitheatre in Chatham-street, opened in 1797 by Mr. Handy, an equestrian. This gentleman's numerous company was subsequently all lost (except two or three, who with himself went by Holyhead) on the passage from Liverpool to Dublin.

JAMES BURY.

TOKENS.

(Query No. 3,223, August 18.)

[3,235.] I can supply information respecting tokens Nos. 3 and 4, mentioned by the querist. No. 3: The Manchester halfpenny was struck to commemorate the opening of the Bridgewater Canal. On the obverse is "Success to Navigation," with a coat of arms which I presume to be those of the Duke of Bridgewater; reverse, "Manchester half-penny, 1793," with a man walking bearing a pack upon his back. No. 4: During George II.'s reign halfpennies were struck by the Earl of Derby for use in the Isle of Man. On the obverse they have the crest of the Earl of Derby, namely the eagle and child, with motto "Sans changer," and also the date "1733;" on the reverse, the arms and motto of the island, with "½," which I presume stands for one halfpenny, and also the letters "J.D."

I have also in my collection a Manx penny, struck by the Duke of Athol, which has on the obverse the letters "D.A." in monogram surmounted by a coronet, 1758, and on the reverse the arms and motto of the Isle of Man.

H. B. G.

Saturday, September 15, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET-LORE. VIII.: PARSONAGE, ST MARY'S-STREET, COLLEGE LAND.

[3,236.] These three streets were formed out of property belonging to the ancient ecclesiastical foundation, of which the former representatives were "the Warden and Fellows of the College of Christ in Manchester," and of which the present trustees are the Dean and Canons of Manchester. It is on account of this connection that the streets have obtained the names they bear.

"Parsonage" is one of the older place-names of Manchester, the "seven houses in the Parsonage" being conspicuous objects in plans and views of the town early in the last century; but the name "Parsonage," and the name "Parsonage Bank," were not, until some years after that period, applied to the street running out of Blackfriars and parallel with the river. Our local chronicler, Richard Hollingworth (MS. Chetham Lib.), says, in referring to Manchester early in the fourteenth century: "The Manor house stood in or neere to the place where the Colledge now stands . . . and the Parsonage house was neere to a field called the Parsonage, in or neere the street called the Deanesgate;" and in a later part of his chronicle records that, in the year 1342, "Robert de Chalomber passed certaine lands in the Deanesgate in the Parsonage of Manchester to John, son of John de Strangwayes, for 20d. yearly to be payd to the Rector." One of the witnesses to the deed effecting this transfer was, according to the same authority, one of the chaplains of the College before-mentioned.

In the St. Mary's Church Act (passed in 1753) it is recited that the Warden and Fellows were "seized to them and their successors of . . . a certain close or parcel of land called the Parsonage Croft, lying and being within the said town of Manchester, and contiguous to the most populous and frequented part thereof;" and further, that these dignitaries had proposed to allot part (viz., 3,208 square yards) of this close to be a site for a church and churchyard, and "to make and lay open the commodious way or passage of eight yards in breadth and fifty-eight yards in length from and out of a public street in the said town of Manchester called the Deansgate to the said intended new church," and "to pull down one messuage or dwelling-house (part of their College Lands) lying and adjoining to the aforesaid street called

Deansgate." It further appears from the Act that the intended site was bounded on the north "by a brick wall dividing the said Parsonage Croft from lands in the possession of Jeremiah Bower, on the east and west by other parts of the said Parsonage Croft, intended to be laid out for and as two several streets or ways [viz., "Parsonage," now so called, and "College land"] of six yards wide; and on the south side by other part [now "South Parade"] of the said Parsonage Croft." The Act empowered the Warden and Fellows "to lay open and grant in fee to any person or persons having the property of lands adjoining to the said Parsonage Croft, any road or roads for all carriages into, from and over the said intended streets, on the east and west sides of the Parsonage Croft, and to make such other roads and ways into and over the said croft . . . as shall be found convenient and most for the benefit of the estate," and also to grant building leases—the lease term not to exceed forty years—over the remainder (2,818 square yards) of the Croft, not forming the sites of the church, churchyard, and streets; and to renew such leases on the terms mentioned in the Act.

The church was soon afterwards built and finished, and was opened in the year 1756. By the early and rapid granting of building leases under the above Act of Parliament, "Parsonage Croft" was soon covered with houses and streets, one of such streets (and the most necessary under the scheme) being St. Mary's-street, so named after the new church, to which it was intended to give direct access from the principal thoroughfares of the town.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

THE INFANT STAGE, WITH SUGGESTIONS ON SOME STAGE TERMS.

[3,237.] In the very amusing adventure of Don Quixote with the strolling players, part ii., chap. xi., occurs the following:—

Don Quixote would have answered Sancho, but was prevented by a *cart* which came in sight from a corner of the road before them, laden with the strangest and most varied figures and personages imaginable—a knight, Death; an Emperor, crowned: Time, with a scythe; an Angel, with large painted wings; a Cupid, and other such.

To the Don's demand what this cart of Death was, and who its occupants were, the manager, who played the Devil, a very important part, replied:—

Sir, we are strollers belonging to Angelo the Bad's company. This morning, which is the octave of Corpus Christi, we have been performing in a village on the

other side of the hill the *divine piece* called the *Cortès of Death*; and this evening we play it elsewhere. I play the devil, and I am one of the principal personages of this sacramental performance, for in this company I play all the leading parts.

The last sentence is illustrative, no doubt, of the satirical humour of Cervantes, much of which, like that of Hudibras and Gulliver, must be lost to us. It must be remembered, that Cervantes himself was a successful writer of plays. Angelo the Bad was the name given to a strolling manager and author who toured the provinces in the primitive fashion. The introduction of him and his company is a satire on Angelo the Good, a well-known player of Cervantes time.

A learned French editor has the following note. "It was doubtless one of those religious pieces called autos sacramentales that were principally performed during Corpus Christi week. Temporary wooden stages were erected on the occasion of that festival in the streets, and the players, drawn in carts with their stage dresses on, went from one stage to another to perform. Hence, in the jargon of the day 'to go to the carts' meant 'to act in a play.'"

I may here explain that the word "pagina" is Latin for a wooden stage on which performances take place. Hence comes our pageant. I would suggest also that herein may be found the true explanation of the cart on which Thespis, father and founder of the Athenian drama, was said to perform. It was more likely a "caravan" which conveyed him and his company from place to place in old-world Attica. He would be the Athenian Richardson of the Attic wakes and fairs.

But what is more interesting in this quotation and note is that they exactly describe the origin and rise of the "stage" in England, where such plays were very popular in early times. I would with diffidence suggest and as a shot, that the Coventry procession is a relic of the procession of the guilds, the members of each being dressed in character for the parts they had during the festival of Corpus Christi to perform in the Miracle Play assigned to their guild. In this case Godiva—the i pronounced as our e—might merely be "gode Eva," "good Eve," a prominent character in *Adam and Eve*, one of the chief plays, which still exists. Of course the players were all men, and the gag was rough, coarse, and unstinted. How the legend shaped itself into the form it now possesses permanently in the Laureate's poem, with the characters of Leofric and Peeping

Tom as accretions, is, as is the case with all complex legends, beyond even a guess, so buried is it in blind antiquity. "Horseplay," again, I would refer to the "hobby" and his rough antics and unscrupulous use of the bladders fastened to the stick, which in the hands of clowns diverts children to this day as erst it diverted Spain and England.

Each guild repeated its play on various days, but on a different pagina. The collection of these plays in two volumes, edited by Thomas Wright, F.S.A., with Notes and Glossary, is in the Free Library, and its perusal is interesting to the student of early English philology and character and amusements alike.

The "Mystery" Play was from Latin "ministerium" or "service," whence may be derivable the use of "servant" as "actor" in "Represented by Her Majesty's servants," or "My Lord of Leicester's servants." It was often written by a priest or even by a bishop, and acted in connection with the churches. Scholars at universities were great both at writing and representing it. It may have been so called because got up by servants attached to monasteries and great houses.

To return to Don Quixote and his players. To his demand who they were in the cart, the reply is made by the devil manager:—

Your worship must know that they are merry folks and give pleasure: all people favour them: everybody protects, assists, and esteems them, especially if they are *royal* and *titled* troops of comedians, all or most of whom in their manner and garb look like any princes.

On this the same learned French editor notes:—"Philip III. had ordained in consequence of the excesses committed by the groups of strollers that they should be compelled to provide themselves with a licence granted by the Court of Castille! This licence they denominated their *título*, as if it had been a charter of nobility!"

Hence, then, the Spanish origin and very likely the English one of "patent," that is "monoplied," that is "licensed," theatres. In fact I may say that in these extracts there is much that is philologically interesting. Also we are told by Cervantes that the very clown of these strollers, taking advantage of the compulsory royal licence, was "habited as a court jester." "Title" role, again, will mean a part mentioned among the "licensed" characters the list of which personæ dramatis or "masks of the drama" was for legal reasons, no doubt, required to be pre-

fixed to a printed play in early times by the Lord Chamberlain's imprimatur, "be it printed;" just as the proprietor and publisher of a newspaper must attach their names to their journal to-day.

The conservative nature of stage terms as well as of standing stage characters is worth noting. The clown is the colonus or rustic who amused by his simple stupidity like the countryman in farces. Whatever, by the way, motley meant in Shakspeare's time, in Chaucer's it meant some expensive cloth, for in motteleye the rich merchaunt was clad:—

A merchaunt was there with a forked berd,
In motteleye, and high on horse he sat:
Upon his heed a Flaundrisch bever hat:
His botes clapsud faire and fetously:
His resons he spak ful solempnely.

The clown, in fact, got mixed up with the jester, i.e. gester, or tale-teller, as well as with the momus, the mimus, and the scurra of classic days. Stage traditions, ever enlarging, have transformed Wamba Cedric's half-idiot into Wallett the polite wit, or David Abbey Seal, who rides a real Pegasus bare-backed or recites his own verses, tells a tale in Cooke's ring or in a magazine, and knocks off seven jokes—well not so easily as he takes a flying leap over seven horses.

To conclude. The expression "divine piece," or play called the Cortès of Death, occurs in the first extract. Does this explain Dante's *Divina Comedia*? Certain suggestions as to the origin of some theatrical and other names and terms have been made above. They must be considered as suggestions only, and not finalities.

W. D.

DREE.

[3,238.] "J. M.," in his description of Marton Chapel, asks what is the meaning of a "dree road." It is a local term for a long, straight, unvaried, uninteresting road, which palls upon a tired traveller, becoming wearisome, tiresome, or "dree."

JAMES BURY.

* * *

The word has a wider application, as may be seen from the following quotation from the *Glossary of the Lancashire Dialect* (English Dialect Society and Manchester Literary Club):—

DREE, } *adj.* tedious, protracted, monotonous,
DREESOME, } wearisome. Icel. *drjúgr*, lasting; Swed. *dryg*, long; Dan. *drøi*, large, ample. A.S. *dreógan*, to endure, to suffer; p. t. *dreah*. Icel. *dryggja*, to lengthen; Mid. E. *dreghe* (Hamp. *Pricks of C.*, l. 2,235; *E. Eng. Allit. Poems*, B, l. 224).

COLLIER.
1750.

"Whoas lad arto?" "Whau,"
sed he, "I'm Jone's o' Lall's o' Sim-
mys, o' Marriom's, o' Dick's, o'
Nethon's, o' Lall's o' Simmy's ith'
Hooms." Odd, thinks I t' mehsel,
theaws a *dree*-er name than me.
Tim Bobbin, p. 51.

BAMFORD.
1840.

The rain having set in *dree*.
Life of Radical, xx., 135.

Rev. W. GASKELL.
1854.

Lancashire people talk of "*dree*
rain," which often puzzles those who
fancy *dree* is a corruption of "dry."
And they say it rains "*dreely*,"
meaning that it is continuous and
enduring.—*Lect. Lanc. Dialect*, p. 22.

WAUGH.
1859,

Aw've brought thi top cwot, doesto
know,
For th'rain's comin' deawn very *dree*.
Lanc. Songs:—
"Come Whoam to thi Childer."

Dr. BARBER.
1870.

I fudged away up Gamswell
. . . till I began to think it wos
langsone and *dreesome* beath [both].
Forness Folk, p. 3.
EDITOR.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

NANGNAIL.

(Query No. 3,228, September 1.)

[3,239.] In the glossary to *Tim Bobbin's* works
this word is given as the Anglo-Saxon for "a sort of
corns," but is spelt nang-nele. I fancy it is used in
some parts of Lancashire to describe some deformity
in the nails either of the hand or foot. E. W.

[Bamford, in his glossary to *Tim Bobbin*, gives "*Nag-*
nail, a sore on human fingers." The Lancashire
Glossary of the English Dialect Society has two
entries: "*Nagnail*, a sore, caused by the peeling of
the skin from the roots of the finger nail. *Nangnail*
(Ormskirk), a tyrant; an ill-tempered, troublesome
person."—Ed.]

THE SHOE AND RICE AT WEDDINGS.

(Note No. 3,231, September 8.)

[3,240.] In *Scatcherd's History of Morley* (Leeds,
1833) we are told that one of the "curious customs
of our village, now little known, is that of 'trashing'
or pelting common people with old shoes on their
return from church upon the wedding day;" and
also that "originally certain offences subjected the
parties to this unpleasant liability, such as refusing
to contribute to scholars' 'potations' or other con-
vivialities; but in process of time the reason of the

thing was forgotten, and 'trashing' was universal
among the lower orders, turf or sods being substituted
for old shoes and thrown in jest and good humour,
not in anger or ill-will." The chatty author then goes
on to say: "Although it is true that to this day an
old shoe is called a 'trash,' as is everything, indeed,
of no value, yet this certainly did not give the
nuisance its name. To 'trash' signifies to clog, to
hinder or impede, and accordingly we find the rope
tied by sportsmen round the necks of fleet pointers
to tire them well and check their speed, is hereabouts
called a 'dog trash.' But why old shoes in particular
were selected as missiles most proper for impeding
the progress of new married persons it is difficult to
discover. The following passage may perhaps have
some bearing on the subject:—*Leobard*, the celebrated
saint of Tours, in the sixth century, being persuaded
in his youth to marry, gave his betrothed a ring, a
kiss, and a pair of shoes. The ceremony has been
explained very much to the dishonour of the ladies,
as referring to the absolute servitude of the parties,
who in this instance were symbolically tied (to use an
expressive phrase) neck and heels."

In a foot-note is appended: "Since writing the
above I have discovered that to throw an old shoe
after a person was considered luck in former times."

So far *Nevison Scatcherd*. So we find that near
Leeds the custom of throwing an old shoe "for luck"
was called "trashing," and had originally meant just
the reverse. Very old shoes were called "trashes" in
Manchester fifty years ago.

Rice in the East is the symbol of prosperity. It is
only of late years that the custom of rice-throwing,
as a wish for prosperity to the wedded pair, has been
introduced into this country. When I say of late
years, I may mean about a quarter of a century.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

QUERIES.

[3,241.] A PASSAGE IN *RICHARD SECOND*.—In
Richard II., act ii., scene i., the King says:—

Now for our Irish wars:

We must supplant those rough, rug-headed kerns,
Which live like venom where no venom else
But only they have privilege to live.

Did Shakspeare write "venom" or "vermin," or if he
did write venom, did he mean vermin? I have four
editions of Shakspeare, but no commentary.

J. S. D.

Saturday, September 22, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

NANGNAIL.

(Nos. 3,228 and 3,239.)

[3,242.] Once upon a time—now, alas, many years ago, when I was a little boy in London—I was taught to call the pieces of skin which became detached from the base of my finger nails, “hanging nails,” or, more familiarly, “hang nails.” Each of these, in Cockaigne, would of course soon become known as “an ‘ang nail.” I think my derivation must be the right one, because I have it at my fingers’ ends.

E. EDMONDS.

Theatre Royal.

A PASSAGE IN RICHARD SECOND.

(Note No. 3,241, September 15.)

[3,243.] J. S. D. will find in Valpy’s edition of Shakspeare the following note to the passage:—

Which live like venom where no venom else
But only they—hath privilege to live.

“Ireland is said to be exempt from venomous reptiles.”—Editor. Your correspondent seems to me in error in altering the word “hath” into “have,” as the sentence may grammatically stand:—“Where no venom else hath privilege to live, but only they.” In Valpy’s and Mrs. Cowden Clarke’s edition there is a comma after “they.”

J. B. H.

The Mount, Higher Broughton.

* * *

In the passage quoted from *Richard the Second*:—

We must supplant those rough, rug-headed kerns,
Which live like venom where no venom else
But only they have privilege to live—

the allusion is to St. Patrick’s expulsion of snakes from Ireland, i.e., if it were not for the envenomed politics of men, no other venom lives since St. Patrick destroyed the other vermin.

NAMELESS.

* * *

The passage which J. S. D. quotes is an allusion to an old Irish legend of St. Patrick. The saint had made a vow to free Ireland from every sort of venomous reptile. He succeeded in his efforts; one old serpent only resisting. He therefore made a small box, and invited the serpent to enter. The creature objected, saying that it was too small. St. Patrick contended that it was quite large enough to be comfortable. To prove its case, the serpent got in, when St. Patrick of course shut down the lid, and threw the box into the sea. There it is now—so the

legend runs—causing the waves by its ceaseless writhings, and wailing continually to the saint for release.

The word is correctly written “venom,” Shakspeare using the name of a quality possessed by a class, to designate that class. “Vermin” would hardly be as appropriate, as St. Patrick’s labours, if we are to believe the story, confined to the poisonous species of the snake tribe.

E. KEAL.

* * *

Referring to J. S. D.’s query in reference to the passage from *Richard the Second* beginning, “Now for our Irish wars,” I append the commentary of Charles and Mary Cowden Clarke, in their edition of Shakspeare, which, I think, may be accepted as the true explanation:—“‘Where no venom else’ is an allusion to the legend that St. Patrick expelled from Ireland all venomous reptiles for evermore. This passage, by the way, furnishes an instance of the way in which Shakspeare, by his introduction of an expressive word and allusion, conveys the effect of additional words and ideas. Here, by the word ‘venom’ he poetically implies ‘venomous reptiles,’ and thus calls these kerns the reptiles, as well as the poison of their native land.”

THOMAS ATKINSON, JUN.

London.

QUERIES.

[3,244.] ROMILEY AND COMPSTALL.—What are the populations respectively of the ecclesiastical districts of St. Paul’s, Compstall, and St. Chad’s, Romiley?

HARROPDAL.

[3,245.] THE REV. DAVID BRADBURY.—I shall be glad of any information respecting the Rev. David Bradbury, minister of the Independent Chapel in Cannon-street, Manchester, from 1785 to 1799, particularly as to his birth, parentage, and descent.

HARROPDAL.

[3,246.] POBGREEN.—This is the name of a small hamlet in the vicinity of Saddleworth Church; the “green” probably being a corruption of “grien” (the sun)—as in Greenfield, for “grien fhail—the circle of the sun, or sun’s temple—but can “pob” be traced to the same Celtic source? If so, what is the modern signification of it?

HARROPDAL.

[3,247.] THE HUGE STONE AT ALEXANDRA PARK.—I should be glad to know if any geologist could throw any light upon the huge block of stone near the Withington entrance of Alexandra Park. I

have heard that before it was so shamefully scratched striæ were distinctly seen upon it. Is it an erratic block carried by glaciers from the Derbyshire or Yorkshire hills?
PRE-ADAMITE.

[3,248.] LANCASHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—On the termination of a temporary company or association, to whom do the books and papers of said association belong, or what becomes of them? Can any of your readers state the fate of the books and papers once the property of the Lancashire Public School Association? Many valuable educational letters and documents were addressed to that association.
H. R. FORREST.

[3,249.] RUSHCARTS.—I am aware that the origin of rushcarts is a difficult subject to investigate, and has never thoroughly been settled; but I think the time is opportune to re-open the discussion by means of the public press, and perhaps some new facts may be brought to light or some new theory advanced in elucidation of the mystery. Are rushcarts, therefore, druidical, scriptural, or mediæval in their origin? Let us discover that if we can. Perhaps it would help us to have a list of all localities in which they have been at any time common.

HARROPPDALE.

[3,250.] ANCIENT BRITISH SETTLEMENT.—I have recently been much interested by a visit which I paid to the site of a supposed ancient British settlement on Heathwaite Moor, in the district of Higher Subberthwaite, Furness, Lancashire. There are on the moor a large number of cairns and ancient stone walls; also several circular huts or habitations built of loose stones, roofless, of course, with entrances facing the south. The whole moorland in the neighbourhood is one mass of remains. I wish to know, if any of your readers could tell me, whether these remains have been investigated; and if so, where I could find the account.
OXON.

[3,251.] SHAKSPERE'S GRAVE.—I have a distinct and vivid recollection of reading (where I cannot remember) that in the early part of the last century, while some repairs were being done in Stratford-on-Avon Church, the tomb and coffin were opened secretly (by a local doctor and his assistants, if my memory serves me rightly) and the head and bust of Shakspeare exposed to view. In the article in question a full description of the face is given, the beard (a peaked one) and hair being described as being of "a reddish brown," but after a minute or so of exposure

"the whole of the body crumbled away to dust." Can any reader assist my memory in this matter? I fancied at first that I had read the account of this in *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, but a search through that work has not justified the surmise. If this act can be proved to have taken place, it will do more (by proving the uselessness of the search) to stop the proposed ghoulis desecration of the grave of our national poet than all the letters of indignation ever penned.
E. EDMONDS.

MALLERSTANG FOREST AND PENDRAGON CASTLE, WESTMORLAND.

The History and Traditions of Mallerstang Forest and Pendragon Castle. By the Rev. W. Nicholls. Manchester: John Heywood.

The most ardent and adventurous explorer of the valleys which lie, fold within fold, on the skirts of the Lake Country has probably never heard of Mallerstang Forest and Pendragon Castle; and it is certain that few from the outer world ever break by their presence the uneventful but contented life of the inhabitants of this secluded dale. The name Pendragon is redolent of Cornwall rather than Westmorland, and its romantic and legendary sound reminds one more of King Arthur and the Round Table than either. The traveller by the Midland Railway line to Carlisle passes through Mallerstang in the stretch of wildland traversed before reaching Kirkby Stephen, but there is no station in any portion of the valley to acquaint him with the fact. Of this out-of-the-way valley the Rev. W. Nicholls, formerly of Ravenstonedale and Mallerstang, now of Bury in Lancashire, has told the history and recorded the traditions in a pleasant volume of some one hundred and thirty pages. The book serves to show—what so many local histories had previously put beyond doubt—that there is scarcely a rood of ground in England that is not rich in records and memorials of enduring interest. Mr. E. A. Freeman, in his latest work on *English Towns and Districts*, remarks that "many of us, in these days of foreign travel, have very little notion of the treasures of art and history which still live in the towns and villages of our own country. And many of us have not fully grasped the truth how largely in every land national history is made up of local history." Mr. Nicholls supplies an illustration of the truth of these words. "When the reader," he says, "bears in mind that the dale is not more than five miles in length, he will

probably be surprised that so much material could have been gathered together respecting so small a dale. This, however, should be said, that it contains two or three objects of special interest; that a river—the Eden—rises in it, and pursues its way through its bottom, receiving tributaries on its east and west. The Episcopal Chapel is of undoubtedly early date, and the Castle of Pendragon, now a ruin, would be enough of itself to invest the vale with uncommon interest."

The origin of the castle can only be guessed at. Tradition ascribes it to Uther Pendragon, the semi-mythical king of Britain about the year 420, after the departure of the Romans, and whose name is mentioned by Geoffrey of Monmouth in connection with that of the prophet Merlin. The name of Pendragon Castle first appears in authentic records in an inquisition of Edward the Second (1315). The first lord of the manor, properly so called, was Hugh de Moreville, one of the four knights who murdered the Archbishop Thomas à Becket in Canterbury Cathedral, in the year 1170. From him the lordship passed successively, by descent or relationship, to the Veteriponts, the Cliffords, and the Tuftons, earls of Thanet; and it now belongs to Baron Hothfield, of Hothfield, Lord-lieutenant of Westmorland, who, as Sir Henry J. Tufton, unsuccessfully contested the county in the Liberal interest at the last general election in 1880, and was elevated to the peerage by the present Government in the following year. The most famous name connected with Pendragon Castle is that of Anne, the celebrated Countess of Clifford, who spent her long widowhood in repairing her castles (notably that of Skipton) in the north of England, and in works of public and private charity. Pendragon Castle was burnt down by the Scots in 1341; it was restored, and again reduced by the Scots in 1541. In 1660 the place was rebuilt, and the following inscription was cut upon a stone over the entrance gate:—

This Pendragon Castle was repayred by the Lady Anne Clifford, Countess Dowager of Pembroke, Dorsett, and Montgomerie, and Vescie, High Sherifesse, by inheritance, of the county of Westmorland, and lady of the honour of Skipton in Craven, in the year 1660, so as she came to lye in it herself for a little while in October, 1661; after it had layen ruinous without timber or any covering ever since the year 1541. Isaiah chap. 58, ver. 12. God's name be praised.

Lady Clifford who was afterwards a frequent visitor to the castle, also built in Mallerstang a stone bridge over the Eden, and repaired the episcopal

chapel "after it had layne ruinous and decayed some fifty or sixty years," endowing the same with lands which she purchased at Cautley, near Sedbergh. Twenty-five years after the rebuilding of the castle, in 1685, Thomas, Earl of Thanet, dismantled it and left it a ruin, taking away the lead, which was worth something in those days, and all other valuables. A ruin it has remained to this day, but Wordsworth, amongst others, cherished a dream of its restoration under happier auspices than those of the olden time. Apostrophizing the castles of Skipton, Brugh, Brougham, and Pendragon, in his *Song at the Feast*, on the restoration of Lord Clifford, he says:—

How glad's Pendragon—though the sleep
Of years be on her! She shall reap
A taste of this great pleasure viewing,
As in a dream, her own renewing.

The castle was washed on the east by the river Eden, and many of the early owners and builders tried to draw the water around it with a view to its more efficient protection. But the attempt was fruitless, and gave rise to a couplet which is still in the mouths of the people of the valley—

Let Uter Pendragon do what he can,
Eden will run where Eden ran.

Mr. Nicholls's account of the people of the dale is full of interest. There are not many of them. At the Census of 1801 they numbered 314, living in sixty-seven houses; now there are only 271, with seven houses fewer. The poor-rate value of the township is £3,340, but, says Mr. Nicholls, although the inhabitants "contribute a handsome sum, varying according to the difference of rate, to the maintenance of the poor, they have not received any parish relief, up to very recently, for the past thirty years." Until very recently the postman had not found them out; the rare letters were sent to some neighbouring market town whenever a farmer had occasion to go there. An amateur constable, chosen periodically by the ratepayers, kept the peace, and enjoyed a sinecure, along with the custody of a truncheon which he never had occasion to use. There is no doctor in the dale, and the dalesfolk depend mainly upon their knowledge of "yerbs" in cases of illness. The only occasions of excitement in the year (before the railway was made) were Outhgill Fair, now numbered among the byegones; Brough Hill Fair, when a host of dealers with cattle passed through the valley; and the Yorkshire fairs, when droves of sheep and cattle from Scotland were on their migration,

Knitting was the universal occupation, both for men and women. They knitted as they were walking along a road, and the men knitted when they were shepherding. Fox-hunting, pursued of course on foot, was a favourite recreation. One Sunday morning, during divine service, the old parish clerk, John Fothergill, heard the hounds in full cry. A keen fox-hunter himself, the hunt had more interest to him than the service. The dogs lost scent; John perceived it. Then they got on the track again. The clerk, in his excitement, instead of what he should have said in the Church service, exclaimed aloud, "Ah, they hev him again." On another occasion Reynard was run to earth. Some of the men dug down until they came to a crevice in the rock, into which the fox had crept, when "Fox Willie," a well-known character, put his arm in to seize the fox. The men called out, "Has ta got hod?" "We've baith got hod—pull away!" Whereupon he was drawn out by his feet, fox and all. The people seldom left the valley, even to go to the market towns near, and their affection for their homesteads is strikingly illustrated by a story Mr. Nicholls tells of old Joe Atkinson, the sexton, who when he had to leave his house at Shor Gill and move to Outh Gill, a distance of under three hundred yards, asked the clergyman what he had done to be transported! It is grievous to have to add that in Mallerstang, as in the rest of Westmorland, the old race of "statesmen"—yeomen owning and tilling their own land—for whom Wordsworth had such an admiration, is passing away. Only two now remain in the dale.

Separated as the dale is from the rest of the world, Nonconformity found a footing there in the Puritan times, and a few of the folks also took the Parliamentary side in the Civil War. Philip, Lord Wharton, was one of these; his estates were confiscated. Another was Captain Atkinson, the owner of five estates in the valley, and a captain in the militia. He was a zealous supporter of the Commonwealth and Cromwell, and after the restoration he gathered a band of followers, and rose in rebellion against the King at Kaber Rigg. He was taken prisoner and hanged at Appleby Castle in 1664. Tradition says that on the morning of the execution a king's officer arrived at Stainmore, and asked at the inn whether there was any particular news. When told that Captain Atkinson had been executed that morning, he exclaimed, "Why, I have his reprieve in my pocket!" It robs the name of Lady Anne Clifford of

much of its lustre to learn that she had set her mind on Atkinson's execution and did her best to ensure it. Incidentally, Mr. Nicholls remarks that the name of Longfellow is common in Mallerstang parish, and that when the poet was in the Lake Country a few years ago, he said in the Assembly Room, Penrith, that he was a Cumberland man in two senses—i.e., Cumberland in the United States of America, and that his family originally came from Cumberland in England.

Small as Mr. Nicholls's volume is, and limited and obscure as is the district with which it deals, we have not touched upon a tithe of the materials which he has brought together in his interesting volume. His work shows how much may be done by the local historian even in a restricted and apparently unpromising field, when he brings to his task zeal, intelligence, and sympathy.

DANTE ROSSETTI'S HOUSE.—The late Dante Gabriel Rossetti's house in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, has passed into the hands of the Rev. H. B. Haweis on a long lease. It is the property of the Earl of Cadogan, who has expressly stipulated that it shall not be structurally altered. It is one of the oldest houses in Chelsea—admirable in construction and architecture. It is built on the site of Henry VIII.'s palace, and the old Tudor foundations and dungeon-like cellars remain.

PRONUNCIATION OF "YOLANDE."—What is the right pronunciation of Yolande, the name of the heroine of Mr. William Black's latest novel? The author has given his view in a recent letter. It is as follows:—

They say the author's spelling was planned
To make the people pronounce Yolande;
And who could think 'twould be found handy
To use the cumbrous form Yolandë?
Though those who wished a rhyme for Holland
Were doubtless welcome quite to Yolande;
But now upon us it has dawned
'Twere better far to say Yolanda.

A very unsatisfactory conclusion!

A BUILDING PROBLEM.—The ruined city at Tiahuanaco is celebrated for the massive nature of the stones employed in the erection of its temples, fortresses, and houses. In one of the walls there is a gigantic mass of rock which has been carefully measured and proved to weigh 250,000lb., or 125 short tons. Who were the builders and how they contrived to handle these enormous masses of rock remain enigmas to the present day, although fancy and tradition have been busily employed endeavouring to solve them. Tiahuanaco is situate in Bolivia on the south shore of Lake Titicaca.

Saturday, September 29, 1883.

NOTES.

BURNS'S FAVOURITE EDINBURGH TAVERN AND HIS
"WILLIE BREWED."

[3,252.] In Kaye's *Etchings of Edinburgh Celebrities*, vol. ii. (1794), there is a portrait of Johnie Dowie, vintner, Libberton's Wynd—dainty John—famous for his "buffed herrings" and his ale. It was at his house that Burns and W. Nicol, of the High School (his intimate friend and fellow-traveller), and Allan Masterton used to meet nightly for their little "splores." These are the three to whom allusion is made in

Willie brewed a peck o' maut
An' Rab an' Allan cam tae prie.

There is an epigram on Johnie Dowie's ale ascribed to Burns. [This is not mentioned in any biography of the poet which I have seen. The tavern may be the veritable scene of the action of the song.]

W. DOIG.

On board the Drummond Castle.

MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD: NORWICH AND
MANCHESTER.

[3,253.] During the last century, if not earlier, there existed an intimate connection between Manchester and the eastern counties. Probably this was due to the similarity of trade and manufacture. This commerce would cause the migration of Manchester families to Norwich and *vice versa*.

The work of the National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead, in copying inscriptions in the Octagon Meeting House Burial Ground, in Norwich, is completed. The following inscriptions may prove of interest, and especially the first one, to the descendants now living. It is:—

In Memory of
Sarah, the Wife of
NOCKOLD THOMPSON, Esq.,
(One of the Daughters of Robert Birch, of
Manchester, merchant)
Who died Nov. 19th, 1773, in the 35th year
of her age.

A note as to the other daughters of Mr. Birch, and where interred, might be given. No other Thompson is buried here.

In the second, as under, the inquiry arises, would Alderman Sir Thomas Baker, of Manchester, be in any way connected?

S. M.

THOMAS BAKER, Esq.,
Who was thirty years Surgeon to St. Thomas's
Hospital, Southwark.

Retired from business and came to this city
the 23rd day of August, 1769; died
February the 8th, 1770, aged 60 years.

Here the wicked cease from troubling,
And the weary are at rest.

The altar tomb is of stone with massive black marble top, and needs a little care. The inscription is fast disappearing through the action of the weather. No other Baker is buried there.

WILLIAM VINCENT,
Secretary.

Belle Vue Rise, Norwich.

MANX FOLK-LORE.

[3,254.] Doubtless many ancient customs of Ellan Aalin Veg Veen are fast becoming extinct in these days of wider communication with the surrounding nations, but yet there linger many curious superstitions among the mountains and dales of the island which the patient inquirer may collect and transmit to an unbelieving posterity. Some of these have come within my own knowledge during the past few years, and as they have not hitherto been recorded it may be well to place them in the pages of the Manchester Notes and Queries.

The most recent instance occurred not a month ago, when, a man dying on the eastern coast, the undertaker was asked by an old neighbour woman to take a white handkerchief and draw it through the dead man's hand. This was done, and when the kerchief was given back to the woman she tied it round her throat and wore it for some days as a charm against sore throat, from which she had been suffering for some weeks. A few days ago I saw the woman, and asked if she had derived any benefit from the "charm," when she candidly acknowledged she had not, but seemed indignant to know that I had heard of it.

A few weeks ago, in the same parish (one of the most populous on the island), a young woman was troubled with epileptic fits, when the means resorted to for her recovery were to obtain a sheet on which a person had just died, and without any washing to fold the epileptic in it and turn her round and round; but this "charm" also proved a failure. As a cure for whooping cough I have known of children being taken to a neighbouring corn-mill and passed through the hopper, but with no other result than terrifying the children.

Charms for toothache, warts, bleeding, and witchcraft are numerous, and their supposed possessors are looked upon with a degree of envy. I am personally acquainted with several persons who profess to have been cured thereby, and no amount of reasoning will convince them to the contrary. Last year a man got injured in the hand by an explosion of dynamite, and for some days suffered severely from the nervous shock—"shaking tervil," as he expressed it, "and could not keep still in bed." Surgical aid and the prayers of a man "on the plan" were of no avail, and so he sent a complaint to a blacksmith about two miles away, and, strange to believe, the smith instantly cured him without even leaving his own house—at least so the man told me. This same blacksmith has wonderful powers, according to common belief, amongst which was the power of checking bleeding of any kind. Some time back he was called to a man who had been bleeding from the nose for a day or two, and "succeeded in stopping it;" but the vicar calling upon the sick man shortly afterwards he was told of the miraculous cure which had been performed by the man of the forge. Directly, the bleeding came on again, and though the smith was sent for, his charms were in vain, and he now declares that he "has lost his charm," i.e., his power, since that day. Several other instances of "charming" have occurred within my recent knowledge, and some of these I may report in a future note.

HARROPDALÉ.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

NANGNAIL.

(Nos. 3,228, 3,239, and 3,242.)

[3,255.] Forty or fifty years back the minute strips of skin so irritatingly detached from the sides of the finger-nails were locally called, in Manchester, "step-mothers' blessings;" in Birmingham, "back-friends."

ISABELLA BANKS.

RUSHCARTS.

(Query No. 3,249, September 22).

[3,256.] HARROPDALÉ says the origin of Rushcarts is a difficult subject. Why? I confess I do not clearly understand what he means, but presume he refers to carts of rushes being taken about—as "Maying"—or on some other special occasion. In the time of Queen Elizabeth certainly, no doubt long before, and certainly in some districts of England until within my own recollection, rushes have been

ordinarily used, sometimes in connection with, and sometimes without sand, in lieu of carpets, as a covering for floors. A friend tells me that in country public-houses in many parts of France and Germany this is commonly the case now. The gatherers of these rushes, at certain seasons, gathered gratuities, as also did, and probably do now, the turf-cutters (bog-trotters), faggots, gatherers of underwood for fire-lighting, chimney sweeps (Jacks in the Green), and many other trades, by carting round specimens of their occupation, themselves being frequently grotesquely attired, and their wares decorated with ribbons and tinsel. I understand also that in many parts of Russia, at this day even, well-to-do people still maintain the practice of strewing (or strawing) their rooms with rushes in lieu of other covering. It is matter of interest while on this subject to consider, if we do not get this very word, strawing or strewing, from this same practice, the German "streue" meaning any substance, such as straw or rushes, put on a floor by way of preventing contact therewith.

H. G. B. T.

* * *

In days remote, before the invention of carpets, it was customary to strew the floors of the best houses, and of the churches with green rushes. To collect them for this purpose a holiday was given to the young men and maidens of the locality. Their conveyance in quantity necessitated a vehicle, and in process of time the annual rushbearing became a festival, and village rivalry caused emulation in "decorative art," the squire even lending his plate for the purpose; just as the damsels lent their well-saved (and often well-washed) ribbons to decorate the hats and shirt sleeves of their brothers and sweethearts. (Ribbons were all silk in those days and would bear washing.) I have often wondered to see silver salvers, tankards, ladles, &c., entrusted to the care of men who stopped for their morris-dance at every large house, public or private, in the long round taken for exhibition and "largesse" before they carted their rushes to their final destination, and who took so many potations by the way. And here comes a question—whence comes the word "morris?" It is very old.

ISABELLA BANKS.

ORIGIN OF STAGE TERMS.

(Note No. 3,237, September 15.)

[3,257.] Is there any substantial reason for deriving the word "mystery" (as in the Mystery Plays) with its "y" from the Latin "ministerium," as sug-

gested by W. D.? I ask for information's sake. I had always in my mind the seemingly more obvious, but not, therefore, more necessarily true, connection with the mysteries of religion. To trace the title of "Her Majesty's servants" to the same origin strikes me at first sight as strained. This latter phrase smacks to me much more of courtly obsequiousness.

C. H. C.

Sheffield.

SHAKSPERE'S GRAVE.

(Query No. 3,251, September 22.)

[3,258.] Mr. E. EDMONDS must be thinking of an article which appeared in the *Argosy* some three years back, which was headed, "How Shakspeare's skull was stolen." The paper was reprinted in the *Stratford Herald* of two or three weeks ago. Dr. Ingleby, in his lately published work advocating the exhumation of the poet's remains, seems to think the story worthy of attention. Ingleby's interesting book may be had at Stratford, price eighteen-pence. There is a tale told by some in this town that when the Rev. Dr. Davenport's tomb was once opened the sexton looked into the adjoining one of Shakspeare, and saw—nothing! I have been told also that the lines upon the poet's gravestone were put there by a friend in order that the remains should not be cast into the charnel house. Many remains were cast into such a house about Shakspeare's time to make room for fresh burials. Some people wickedly say that after all the skull and bones of our bard are gone in some such way, and therefore the Town Corporation are afraid to open the tomb. But such persons are, of course, maliciously disposed and fond of gibes. The great probability is that the bust in the church is a life-like one, and that the skull of Shakspeare has not been stolen, but has almost mouldered away.

J. T. SLUGG, JUN.

Stratford-on-Avon.

* * *

Shakspeare's grave was violated in 1794, if we are to believe an article published in the *Argosy* of October, 1879. There you will find an account of "How Shakspeare's skull was stolen. Circa 1794 by a Warwickshire Man." This article gives in three chapters a circumstantial account of the theft of the skull. The above, no doubt, is the account Mr. EDMONDS refers to in his inquiry. Can any of your readers say if it is fiction?

J. H. ABBOTT.

Heston Mersey.

A PASSAGE IN RICHARD THE SECOND.

(Nos. 3,241 and 3,243.)

[3,259.] With reference to the passage in Shakspeare (*Richard II.*, 2. 1.) J. B. H. writes:—"Your correspondent (J. S. D.) seems to me in error in altering the word 'hath' to 'have,' as the sentence may grammatically stand:—'Where no venom else hath privilege to live, but only they.'" I should like to take exception to the word "altering," as used by J. B. H., and to the inference which must be drawn from his remark that the sentence could not "grammatically stand:—"—"Where no venom else have privilege to live, but only they."

In the first place, I think that the passage as quoted by J. S. D. is the true text, as quoted by J. B. H. the revised text; because, not only do we find it written "have" in many of the oldest and some of the best modern editions of the play, but by the comparison of various passages in this and other plays, we find that in cases such as this, where a predicate has two or more subjects, the verb almost invariably agrees with the last one. And even in sentences where there is but one subject followed by a substantive which is not itself a subject but which is dependent upon the subject, the verb, again, almost invariably agrees with the substantive immediately preceding it. Comp. *Hamlet*, i., 2, 38:—

More than the scope
Of these delated articles allow.

Also *Comedy of Errors*, v., 1, 71:—

The venom clamours of an angry woman,
Poisons more deadly than a mad dog's tooth.

And in this same play, v., 5, 55:—

The sound that tells what hour it is
Are clamorous groans.

Which is a very similar passage in grammatical construction to the one under consideration. Your correspondent, I suppose, would read it:—

The sound that tells what hour it is
Is clamorous groans.

I could quote many more instances of this "confusion of proximity" if it were necessary; it is a mistake which in modern authors we should condemn, and rightly too, but it is a thoroughly Shaksperian idiom. Nor indeed is it confined to Shakspeare among old English writers; Chaucer errs in the same way not infrequently, and Bacon in his *Advancement of Learning*, ii., 8, 5, says:—"The entry of doubts are as so many suckers or sponges to draw use of know-

ledge." Our own authorized version of the New Testament gives us several instances, as, for example Rev. xxii. 15: "Without are dogs and sorcerers—and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie," i.e., "whosoever loveth a lie are without," the revisers have indeed altered the passage, but it is a very questionable improvement, it now reads:—"Everyone that loveth a lie are without."

All these instances serve to show that this passage in *Richard II.* is not an isolated case of the use of a plural verb with a singular noun, and considering this, and the fact that in the older editions we find it written as J. S. D. quotes it, I think we are justified in assuming that to be the true text. Therefore it is J. B. H. not J. S. D. who is following an "altered" edition.

In the second place, I think that the use of "have" here is grammatically correct. Had the word used been "vermin" not "venom" no question would have been raised. We all understand "vermin" to mean, as the dictionary defines it, "all sorts of small noxious animals," that is, it is a plural noun designating not one of a class but all. And on this ground we can justify the use of the plural after "venom," it denotes here, not the poison emitted by serpents which is its more usual meaning, nor yet one of the class to whom the property belongs, but all venomous reptiles.

This passage seems to have been first altered by Capell, and subsequent editors have followed him. It is a great pity that such revisions have been made at all; in many instances the sense is entirely changed, and even in cases like this, where the use of the one word or the other is of no material consequence to the meaning, surely we might be content to sacrifice a rule in syntax for the sake of keeping true to the original.

E. KEAL.

QUERY.

[3,260.] JOHN MAYNARD.—Who is the author, or how can a copy be obtained, of the poem which relates the anecdote of John Maynard steering the burning ship to land at the loss of his own life?

S.

MELROSE ABBEY.—The ruins of Melrose Abbey have been carefully restored during the last few weeks by the Duke of Buccleuch, to whom they belong. The nave, aisles, transepts, and choir have all been thoroughly overhauled, and the stone roof of the nave has been put into excellent repair

Saturday, October 6, 1883.

NOTES.

"THE BEETLE AND WEDGE."

[3,261.] "J. M.," in the third chapter of his very interesting account of the Cruise of the *Elfrida*, remarks, as a "curious sign," the "Beetle and Wedge." It will probably be well known to many of your readers, though possibly not to some, that the "beetle" here mentioned is not an insect, but a very large wooden mallet, having each end of its head bound, usually with iron, and sometimes copper, hoops, which is used for driving the wedges employed in breaking up heavy pieces of timber (commonly roots of trees). I have seen these so heavy in the head as to have two handles, placed at an angle of about ninety degrees, so as to admit of their being used at one time by two, and sometimes by even four men.

H. G. B. T.

THE NEW EDITION OF ORMEROD'S HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

[3,262.] A writer in *Notes and Queries* (London) for September 22, under the signature J. C. (? the late Mr. James Crossley), writes as follows, referring to the new edition of Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, edited by Mr. T. Helsby:—"It is certainly much to be regretted that the work should have been undertaken without the sanction of Dr. Ormerod's representatives, and without any use being made either of his important manuscript collections or of the interleaved and annotated copy, full of notes and corrections, which Dr. Ormerod left behind him. Mr. Helsby requested from Dr. Ormerod's executors permission to examine these collections, but the request was refused. He says, 'Mr. Ormerod's executors only followed their testator's injunctions not to allow his collections to be seen by anyone whosoever.' No such injunctions were ever given by Dr. Ormerod, who contemplated that his collections would be made use of for a second edition of his work. They have been seen by many persons; and had the new edition of the *History of Cheshire* been undertaken with the sanction of Dr. Ormerod's family, and by an editor in whom they had confidence, access to his collections would have been readily afforded and every assistance given to the work." Surely some explanation is required from Mr. Helsby after so direct a contradiction to his printed statement

X.

FARM LABOURERS IN DERBYSHIRE SIXTY YEARS AGO.

[3,263.] It is a well-known fact that as old age comes on the recollection of the events of early life become more vivid, and the events of recent date make fainter and still fainter impressions, until the brain has no longer the power to retain in permanent record the events of a day. Cases of this extreme cerebral weakness are rare, but I remember one at the Manchester Workhouse when I performed the duties of a guardian at that institution.

From 1814 to 1820 I spent considerable time in various parts of Derbyshire. I had numerous relations and friends amongst the well-to-do farmers of the county, and was always welcome amongst them. I saw a good deal of Dovedale at that early period, and the grand scenery of the district is surrounded in my mind with many pleasant memories.

The labourers on the farms were badly paid. As an illustration of the state of things I may refer to one who was a confidential servant, whose weekly wage was twelve shillings. From this we may judge what inferior workmen would receive. These men lived in their own homes, but at harvest time, and other periods when extra work had to be done, they got help in the way of small beer, bread and cheese, or potatoes. Sometimes the harvest food was varied and a gooseberry pie with oatcake crust was sent into the field to the labourers, who greatly enjoyed it. I remember sitting by an aunt of mine as she made these pies, when I was a small boy. What I must call the bottom of the pie was a large rounded thick oatcake, about half an inch to five-eighths of an inch thick. Upon this was placed a tolerably thick layer of gooseberries, upon which was a layer of treacle. The upper crust of the pie was another oatcake like the first. I have no doubt that there are now living in the neighbourhood of Tissington many old people who will remember the oatcake pies of the time I speak of.

I spent six months of the year 1819 within three miles of Buxton, where I found domestic customs somewhat different. The farmer in this case was a near relation of mine, who farmed his own estate. He was a widower, and had a son who lived with him. They lived for the most part, as the rest of the household did, with the exception of tea, which they had morning and evening. I and some others were allowed this luxury on Sunday afternoons; but the tea was sweetened with treacle, and I have a strong

opinion that it was a very disgusting mixture. In this establishment, although my venerable relative was a wealthy man, it was an extremely rare thing to see a white loaf. I can only recollect seeing two during the six months that I was there. Oatcake was the chief food from day to day, with black bread occasionally. Bacon, in some form or other, was our principal animal food. Potatoes and milk were in unlimited quantity. For the evening meal we had frequently a large deep dish full of mashed potatoes. In the middle of the mess a depression was made and filled with milk. We all sat round the table, each with his spoon, and partook of the common but palatable fare.

My introduction to this paper must be my excuse for troubling you with these odds and ends of domestic life in Derbyshire sixty years ago.

THOMAS BRITAIN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SHAKSPERE'S GRAVE.

(Nos. 3,251 and 3,258.)

[3,264.] The following extract from Washington Irving's *Sketch Book* may not prove uninteresting:—"In the course of my rambles I met with the grey-headed sexton [*mirabile dictu*] Edmonds. . . . He had lived in Stratford, man and boy, for eighty years. . . . A few years since, as some labourers were digging to make an adjoining vault the earth caved in, so as to leave a vacant space almost like an arch, through which one might have reached his [Shakspere's] grave. No one, however, presumed to meddle with it . . . and lest any of the idle or the curious, or any collector of relics, should be tempted to commit depredations, the old sexton kept watch over the place for two days until the vault was finished and the aperture closed again. He told me that he had made bold to look in at the hole, but could see neither coffin nor bones—nothing but dust."

E. EDMONDS.

Theatre Royal.

MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD: NORWICH AND MANCHESTER.

(Note No. 3,253, September 29.)

[3,265.] In last Saturday's *City News* there were copies of two inscriptions upon tombstones in the Octagon Meeting House Burial Ground in Norwich—one to the memory of Sarah, the wife of Nockold Thompson, Esq. (one of the daughters of Robert Birch, of Manchester, merchant), who died November

19, 1773, in the thirty-fifth year of her age. In explanation of this Note I am able to say that Robert Birch, the father, was a trustee of Cross-street Chapel in this city, and that his name appears on the deeds of trust of 1732 and 1746. He died January 3, 1762, aged sixty-eight years. His wife Alice died March 20, 1742, aged forty-four years. Both were interred in the chapel, as also were six of their children. In an adjoining grave were interred the remains of the Rev. Eliezer Birch, one of the ministers of the chapel, who died May 12, 1717, aged fifty-seven years. From the graves being adjacent to each other it is likely that the minister and trustee belonged to the same family—perhaps they were father and son. In what way the family became connected with Norwich is not clear; though it may be observed that, previously to his settlement in Manchester, the Rev. Eliezer Birch was minister of a congregation at Yarmouth, which is not very far from Norwich. There would be friendly relations between the two Nonconforming ministers and the members of their respective congregations.

The second inscription is to the memory of Thomas Baker, Esq., and your correspondent, Mr. WILLIAM VINCENT, inquires if Alderman Sir Thomas Baker is in any way concerned? I cannot respond in the affirmative. I have never heard that the family to which I belong had any connection with Norwich, nor that they were connected with the Unitarian body so early in the last century as my namesake lived and flourished. He retired from his practice as a surgeon in London in August, 1769, and I presume settled in Norwich, where he died the following year. This would seem to suggest that he was in some way connected with that city. I possess a *History of the Octagon Chapel, Norwich*, but the biographical portion refers mainly to the ministers who served there. Incidental reference is made to a few laymen who, in the opinion of the authors, were most noteworthy in connection with the chapel. Neither of the names which are the subject of this Note find a place among them.

THOMAS BAKER.

Skerton House.

* * *

In response to the communication of Mr. WILLIAM VINCENT, secretary to the National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead, I send the following fragment of an inscription which came to light during the excavations in the nave of the Manchester Cathedral, now some twenty years ago. The stone had been cut down the middle, leaving the portion

of inscription on the right; the left was probably used up for the purpose of some repairs:—

—he Memory of
—Richardson late of
—Norwich, Widow
—Richardson of that
—died May 11, 1790
—70 years.

The notice of her death, which appeared in the *Manchester Mercury*, runs as follows:—"May 18, 1790. Last Tuesday died, after an illness of several years, Mrs. Richardson, relict of Mr. Richardson, merchant, of Norwich, and mother of Miss Richardson, who lately resided in this town." I believe Miss Richardson, while in Manchester, had a school.

J. OWEN.

JOHN MAYNARD.

(Query No. 3,280, September 29.)

[3,286.] "S." will find the account in the November number of the *British Workman*, 1863; yearly part, No. 9. If out of print I shall be glad to supply a written copy.

G. R. THOMPSON.

Swinton.

* * *

"S." will find the poem entitled "John Maynard" in the *Star Reciter*, edited by Mr. J. A. Ferguson, and published by John Heywood, Manchester. The poem first appeared anonymously in the pages of the *British Workman*, 1863.

ADA WEST.

Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

THE LANCASHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

(Query No. 3,248, September 22.)

[3,267.] Your correspondent will remember that Mr. R. W. Smiles, the secretary of the above association, was subsequently the librarian of the Manchester Free Library. On resigning the latter office, in 1864, he left behind him a number of neatly-labelled parcels containing the documents referred to. The printed books have since been placed in the general library, while the scrap-books and the minute-books, correspondence, and other manuscript, have all been carefully preserved. I shall be glad to show them at any time to Mr. FORREST, or to anyone else who may feel an interest in the records of an important association, whose influence was not confined to the place of its birth nor the period of its existence.

CHARLES W. SUTTON.

Free Library, King-street,

QUERIES.

[3,268.] **TRICYCLE ROUTE TO TUTBURY.**—What is the shortest and best road for a tricycle ride to the small village of Tutbury, near Burton-on-Trent?

JOHN GREAVES.

[3,269.] **SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.**—Can any reader give me some information (or tell me where I could procure it) respecting Sir Thomas Fairfax, the parliamentary commander in the time of the Civil War? The information asked would include the family of the name, and their location and standing.

T. D. C.

[3,270.] **GOTHERSWICK.**—Can any of your readers help me to identify this place, which seems to have been in the neighbourhood of Manchester? On April 21, 1557, it was returned by a jury that William Hulton, late of Farnworth, Esq., who died 10th November, 1558, had held of the lord of the manor of Manchester, "the manor of ffernewurthe and Rumwurthe with its appurtenances and divers messuages lands and tenements with their appurtenances in ffernewurthe, Rumwurthe, Lostock, Mamcester, harp'heye [Harpurhey], *Gothereweke*, Gorton, Denton, Opinshawe, Keirsley, Horwiche, Irlam, and fflixton."

J. P. E.

EARL DERBY'S WEALTH.—The father of the late Duke of Portland used to say that he was the wealthiest living Englishman, for, though his revenue might not be so large as that of some others, no one had more available cash. Lord Derby must surely be in a similarly agreeable position to-day. His income from land alone is put down at £167,000, and he may be credited with at least as much more as will make up £200,000. Merely for his Irish estates he received £180,000. Then he has £5,000 a year officially. His wife has a jointure from her late husband, and he is childless. Moreover—and this is no slight matter—he has but one place to keep up, for a mere villa, such as he possesses in Kent, is not to be counted where "keeping up" is concerned, and Knowsley is neither an Eaton nor a Chatsworth. The park is vast, to be sure; but then cattle are admitted to graze at a charge per head, so that it is not merely a profitless pleasure-ground; and the gardens are nothing extraordinary. In fact, Lord Derby might live with exceptional splendour—which he does not—and yet "salt down" the prodigious sum of £100,000 a year, a circumstance which perhaps assists him in preserving that philosophical state of mind which marks his discourses. A colossal wealth he will have in time (Lord Derbys are long-lived) at this rate. What will he do with it? In Liverpool they declare that he gives away nothing but advice; but then many Liverpudlians are sore and censorious, mindful of what they deem the Lord of Knowsley's apostacy. His father spent his money on horses; his grandfather expended over £15,000 a year on his menagerie; his great-grandfather was a mighty hunter; but the fifteenth earl cares for none of these things. His only hobby is tree-planting and pruning, which is not one that costs money, though it ultimately earns it.—*Vanity Fair*.

Saturday, October 13, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

TRICYCLE ROUTE TO TUTBURY.

(Query No. 3,268, October 6.)

[3,271.] There is no easy way to Tutbury, in consequence of the hilly nature of the country. The following route will be found as short and good as any—in fact it is probably the best, especially at this time of the year:—Stockport, Macclesfield, Bosley, Leek, Cheddleton, Wetley, Cheadle, Uttoxeter, Dove-ridge, and Sudbury. Distance, about sixty miles.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.

(Query No. 3,269, October 6.)

[3,272.] General Sir Thomas Fairfax, Lord Fairfax, the eldest son and heir of Lord Fairfax, was born in Yorkshire, 1611. Both father and son were staunch Presbyterians, and supporters of the Parliament against Charles I. The father died in 1647. Lady Fairfax was a daughter of Lord Vere, under whom Sir Thomas had served in his youth in the Netherlands. General Fairfax resided in the city of York, in a substantial mansion in Castlegate. This fine old house was inhabited until her decease, about twenty years ago, by the venerable and aristocratic Mrs. Pemberton, *née* Fairfax, who had relatives residing near the town of Sunderland, Fairfax Pemberton, Esq., and family, from whom, perhaps, some information might be obtained. Lord Fairfax wrote an account of his public career.

M. H.

* * *

"T. D. C." will find the information he desires in the following works:—Imperial Dictionary of Biography, vol. 2, pp. 319-321; Burton's Cromwellian Diary, 1828, vols. 2 and 3; Encyclopædia Britannica, vol. 8. There is also a short account in Haydn's Index of Biography, 1880. Some letters of Cromwell's to Fairfax are to be found in the Letters and Speeches of Oliver Cromwell, by Thomas Carlyle, two vols., 1845. A scarce old work, published by J. Drake, Bolton, 1785, entitled "A Description of the Memorable Sieges and Battles in the North of England, that happened during the Civil War in 1642 and 1643, chiefly contained in the Memoirs of General Fairfax

and James Earl of Derby," would doubtless be of value to your correspondent. In Ormerod's History of Cheshire, vol. 3, pp. 227-8, will be found a description of the Relief of Nantwich by Fairfax. He is also mentioned in Baines's History of Lancashire, vol. 1, page 222. Fairfax, under the pseudonym of "Stelfax," figures as one of principal characters in Ainsworth's novel *Ovingdean Grange*.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library

* * *

Mr. W. J. Muckley will be pleased to give information as to one branch of the Fairfax family, if application be made to him at Fairfax House, Withington, Manchester.

THE BIRCH FAMILY.

(Nos. 3,253 and 3,265.)

[3,273.] Referring to the Query No. 3,253 I have for some time been collecting information as to the various families of Birch in this district.

Sarah Birch, who married Nockold Thompson, was a member of a large family, her father being Robert Birch, who was described in the obituary notice of him in *Harrop's Journal* as "a considerable manufacturer," residing at Longsight. He was buried at Cross-street Chapel in January 1762, by the side of his wife, who died in 1742. Robert Birch had a very large family; three died in infancy and nine grew up. The wills of three of these (Mary, 1763; Elizabeth, 1774; Jonathan, 1764;) were proved at Chester. Robert's (the father's) will was dated 1760, but is not at Chester. (Query: Where is it?) Three of the daughters married and brought good fortunes to their husbands. Sarah married Nockold Thompson in 1762; Hannah married Archibald Bell in 1763; Martha married Marsden Kenyon in 1764. It is noteworthy that the daughters were married shortly after their father's death. As each had £5,000 fortune, one is not surprised that they were wooed! In Palmer's MSS. at the Chetham Library (page 349) is given a partially complete tree of this family of Birch. I shall be obliged if anyone can tell me where the above Robert Birch's will was proved, or give any particulars as to his parentage.

I believe that Robert Birch was brother to Rev. Eliezer Birch, pastor of Cross-street Chapel. He named one of his sons Eliezer possibly after the uncle.

In Manchester Cathedral is a tablet to the memory of Thomas Ogden, of Manchester, who died in 1766, erected by his only son, Dr. Samuel Ogden. This Thomas Ogden married between 1713-15 the widow of Thomas Birch, of Openshaw, whose death in 1713 is chronicled in a small book styled *The Gorton Historical Recorder*. By her first husband, Mrs. Thomas Ogden had four (or five) children:—Thomas, b. 1698, d. 1774 (whose eldest son Josiah Birch built Failsworth Lodge and was for fifteen years treasurer of the Manchester Infirmary); John, b. 1702, d. 1763; Robert, b. 1705, d.—?—; Joseph, b. and d.—?—; (William?) She died at the age of 85 (see preface to Dr. S. Ogden's sermons published 1788), and I believe that the entry in the Coll. Ch. Burial Register: "May 6, 1759, Hannah, wife of Thomas Ogden, of old age, aged eighty-six," must be hers. I cannot, however, trace the dates of either of her marriages, or her maiden name. Can any of your readers help me? In his will Dr. S. Ogden speaks of "his cousin John Ogden," and "his aunt Dorothy Bradshaw." This latter is a well-known name and may be a guide, if this Dorothy is one of the Bradshaw family.

I shall also be glad of any link in the family of the above Thomas Birch, of Openshaw. What was the date of his birth, and where baptized? What was his father's name? The Birchs of Ardwick are shown in Dugdale's *Visitation of Lancashire*, 1664-5, to be descended from Ambrose Birch, of Openshaw, who is admitted to be "descended from the family of Birch of Birch."

The Gorton registers contain the names of many Birchs. All the children of the above Thomas Birch, who, by the way, sealed his will, dated 1772, with an old seal bearing the arms of Birch of Birch, were baptized there. I shall be glad of any information as to his sons Robert, Joseph (and ? William), and their descendants. I have fully traced Thomas and John. This family staunchly supported the old Nonconformist chapel in Cross-street, and there are numerous entries of its members in the old Chapel Registers. I have collected much information from wills at Chester, and from various registers as to the various families of Birch in Manchester between 1700-1800, and I shall be pleased to supply or receive any further particulars, either through Notes and Queries or personally. The Editor will give my address to anyone desiring it.

H. B.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

FAIRFIELD, MANCHESTER, October 8.

A few days ago I had the pleasure of joining an excursion to explore that interesting relic of the Roman occupation of Britain, viz., the paved road passing over Blackstone Edge. The extensive and careful excavations recently made have greatly facilitated the work of exploration. About three years ago I examined so much of the road as was then uncovered and privately expressed to some of my scientific friends the strong views I then entertained as to the origin and use of the "central track" which so uniformly runs down the middle of the road, and respecting which "doctors have differed" and so much controversy has long prevailed.

My theory then was, and is now confirmed, that the groove or central track which, being carefully hollowed out of the well-jointed large centre stones of the road, was by those celebrated road-makers, the Romans, used as a Guide Track in which a competent official on foot should direct the course of cavalry, infantry, or baggage vehicles over the swampy mountain region traversed by this remarkable road. To the unprejudiced seeker after truth, two strong points in support of this theory will present themselves. Firstly, the necessity for such a contrivance, in those days, and under the peculiar circumstances of the case.

Secondly.—The suitability and efficiency of the means employed to effect the object. Under the first heading, it is reasonable to suppose that an invading army in ancient as in modern days, would have to make advances under cover of darkness. In the case under notice such movements would most probably be made from the camp at Littleborough, which is supposed to have existed in great strength, for on reaching the summit of the "Edge," the panorama beyond is most extensive, and every object passing over this height would be conspicuous to the whole country to the distance of many miles. To avoid giving the watchful enemy so palpable an advantage, the cautious Roman general would move his troops and his impedimenta over this exposed route under the friendly shadow of night or at least of dim twilight. The progress of cavalry or infantry, or even the mere transport of military stores, except in broad daylight, would be attended with enormous risk of confusion and positive disaster, the smallest deviation from the paved road, only 14 feet wide, resulting in a hopeless floundering in the bog through which the road passes over the heights. The same argument applies equally to other phenomena common to that region—viz., fogs and storms of rain and snow. In more peaceful days also, when ordinary traffic, perhaps in opposite

directions, was conducted in obscure light or in unfavourable weather, how very advantageous and comforting would be this "Guide Track" to weary travellers.

Having thus briefly pointed out the positive necessity for such an appliance, whether in the stirring excitement of Roman warfare or in the days of ordinary peaceful traffic, I proceed to explain, in the second place, the suitability and efficiency of the means employed to the object desired. The remarkable groove which I venture to denominate a "Guide Track," and which is fairly uniform in width and depth even at this remote period, showing an absence of any great wear and dilapidation such as would have been visible had the severe friction of wheels or "skids" acted upon it to any extent, is about four inches deep, eighteen inches wide at the top, and twelve inches wide at the bottom. I purposely give the measurements approximately and without fractions.

A sectional view of one of the large central stones—which are of millstone grit, and in dimensions about twenty-four inches long by twelve inches broad and nine inches thick, and are transversely and soundly joined together—presents an outline of the groove not as angular nor even simply curved, but consisting of two intersecting and equal curves, with the consequent ridge between them, such as may be seen in the shaped wood seat of a "Windsor" chair. This peculiar formation is of constant and almost uniform occurrence in places where persons are required to pass through a narrow space in single file, or "one at a time," especially when a stone step intervenes, and that step is of soft material, such as the new red sandstone.

Both in its shape and also its dimensions of this Guide Track is no doubt an artificial arrangement suggested by the wear of stones subjected to the constant tread of human feet within lateral restrictions. The Roman sandal, pliable and unarmed with the modern "hob-nail," would just adapt itself to the form of the "Track" without exerting much wear upon the well-preserved stones. Both the depth of the groove and the central elevation or ridge between the two lines of tread would present conditions most favourable for preserving the correct line of progress, even in the partial or total absence of light, which, as before stated, would be a state of things most probable and sometimes most desirable. An experienced guide, of which a number would probably be kept on duty at this risky and dangerous pass, would, when walking with confidence in the "Guide Track," lead a body of armed men in perfect safety even in the darkness of night.

The paved road on each side of the "Guide Track," being six feet wide, would admit two mounted soldiers on each side of the guide, where urgency so required,

or at least one on each side, that is marching either four or two abreast as the case demanded. Similarly the infantry might be marched either three on each side, that is six abreast, or as in modern formation in "fours" with space on the flanks for the officers. These paved spaces six feet wide on each side both bear traces of double-wheel tracks about 30 inches apart as though small vehicles also had been carefully guided over the dangerous pass.

Should this humble attempt to diffuse a little new light over a hitherto obscure matter of scientific research be successful I shall be much gratified.

W. SHARRATT,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW AFRICAN LAKE.—A letter from Mr. H. M. Stanley, dated July 14, reports the discovery of a new lake, called Mantumba. He has also explored the river marked in the maps as the Ikelembu, but which is really the Malundu, and finds it to be a deep, broad, navigable stream. Stanley expresses his increasing surprise at the density of the population in the equatorial portions of the Congo basin, and says if what he has seen may be taken as representing the state of things generally, there is a population in this river basin of 49,000,000. Extensive commercial openings are offering themselves,

THE UMBRELLA IN INDIA.—Last year 3,353,055 umbrellas were imported into India, a number much larger than the imports of 1881-2; but also, according to Mr. O'Connor's official report, much smaller than the imports of the year before that. A large proportion of these umbrellas are stated to be "fearful and wonderful things to behold, brilliant in colour and remarkable in design, and apparently specially manufactured for use in India." As illustrative of the relative condition of the people in the two provinces it is noted that while Burmah imported 819,313 umbrellas, Madras imported only 22,960.

NELSON'S SIGNAL AT TRAFALGAR.—Mr. J. W. Thompson, writing from Cardiff to the *Standard*, with reference to a statement recently published about the well-known "Every man to do his duty" signal at Trafalgar, says:—What actually happened before the action was this. The Admiral gave the order to telegraph to the whole fleet—"Nelson expects every man to do his duty." This order was given, not to the Signalling Lieutenant of the Victory (who had been disabled, I believe), but to my grandfather, the late George Lewis Browne, who was then serving on board the flag-ship. My father has more than once heard him relate the incident which then occurred—the young lieutenant's suggestion, half hint, half request, that "England" should be substituted, as that word was in the signal code-book, and could be run up at once; whereas "Nelson" would require six sets of flags, displayed one after the other, and Nelson's prompt and hearty reply, "Right, Browne: that's better."

Saturday, October 20, 1883.

NOTES.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE COTTON MANUFACTURE.

[3,274.] The following table of dates shows the growth of the cotton manufacture and of calico-printing to the beginning of the present century. A continuation bringing down the history to our own times is partially compiled, and will be given hereafter:—

- A.D.
- 1253...Linen first made in England by Flemish hands.
 - 1298...Cotton used in England for candle wick.
 - 1330...Manufactures of Flanders introduced into Manchester.
 - 1530...Spinning wheel invented at Brunswick.
 - 1631...Printed calicoes imported from India.
 - 1641...Fustians and dimities introduced in England.
 - 1641...Cotton yarn imported from the Levant.
 - 1670...Muslins first wore in England.
 - 1675...Calico-printing introduced into England.
 - 1676...Introduction of the Dutch loom engine.
 - 1677...East India calicoes to the value of £160,000 consumed in England.
 - 1690...A small printworks established on the Thames at Richmond.
 - 1698...First steam engine brought into successful operation, by Savery.
 - 1701...Value of cotton goods exported, £23,000.
 - 1720...Act prohibiting the use or wear of printed calicoes, whether printed in England or elsewhere, under a penalty of £5 the wearer, and £20 the seller.
 - 1736...So much of the Act of 1720 repealed as forbade the wear of mixed printed goods—that is, goods not all cotton.
 - 1738...Invention of the fly-shuttle by John Kay, of Bury.
 - 1738...Machine for spinning with rollers invented by John Wyatt and Lewis Paul.
 - 1753...A cotton reel invented by Mr. Earnshaw.
 - 1756...Cotton Velvets first made in England.
 - 1757...Duty of 4d. per lb. on yarn imported from India.
 - 1760...Value of cotton manufactures in Great Britain, £200,000 per annum.
 - 1760...Warping mill invented.
 - 1763...Muslins and cotton quiltings first made in England.
 - 1763...Bleaching generally introduced.
 - 1764...James Hargreaves' invention of the spinning jenny, to spin eleven threads at once.
 - 1764...Calico-printing first practised in Lancashire.
 - 1765...English printed calicoes exported to Holland.
 - 1765...Calicoes, (so called from their resemblance to Indian manufactures brought from the province of Calicut), first attempted in England.

- A.D.
 1766...Value of cotton goods made in Great Britain £600,000.
 1767...Spinning by machinery (the water frame)
 1769...Drawing rollers patented by Arkwright.
 1770...Spinning jenny patented by Hargreaves.
 1772...Arkwright and Co. successfully accomplish the manufacture of calicoes.
 1772...First English cotton goods, made with cotton warps, by Messrs. Strutt, of Derby.
 1774...Chlorine discovered by Scheele.
 1775...Mule spinning invented by Samuel Crompton.
 1776...First cotton mill erected at Stalybridge.
 1777...First cotton mill erected at Preston.
 1777...Green dye for calicoes introduced by Dr. R. Williams.
 1780...The finest cotton brought from Berbice. Price of cotton—Berbice, 2/1; Demerara, 1/1; Surinam, 2/0; Cayenne, 2/0.
 1781...Brazil cotton first imported from Maranhão.
 1782...A panic in Manchester, in consequence of 7,012 bales of cotton being imported between December and April.
 1783...Brazil cotton first brought to Manchester.
 1783...Arkwright's machinery for spinning and carding cotton by steam used in Manchester.
 1784...Machinery for spinning open to the trade.
 1784...Bleachers, printers, and dyers compelled to take out licences under an annual tax of £2, by Pitt.
 1785...Cotton first cultivated in Georgia and South Carolina, from seed from the Bahamas.
 1785...Cotton imported from America—one bag from Charlestown, one from New York, and twelve from Philadelphia.
 1785...First steam engine for cotton mills, by Watt.
 1785...Cylindrical printing invented by Mr. Bell, and greatly improved by Mr. Lockett, of Manchester.
 1786...A small quantity of cotton, received from the Isle of Bourbon, sold at 7s. to 10s. per lb.
 1786...Bleaching with acid introduced into the bleach works of Mr. McGregor, near Glasgow, by James Watt.
 1787...First copyright for printers.
 1787...Excise duty of 3d. per square yard imposed on calicoes made and printed in England, and foreign calicoes charged with a duty of 7d. per yard, when printed or dyed in Great Britain.
 1787...Previous to this year the supply of cotton was principally from the West Indies.
 1787...108 bales of cotton imported from America.
 1787...Power loom invented by Dr. Cartwright.
 1787...Forty-one spinning factories in Lancashire.
 1788...Acid first used for bleaching in Manchester.
 1791...First cotton mill erected in United States.
 1793...First attempt to spin yarn from 100's and upwards by power.
 1793...First importation of consequence of cotton from America.
 1793...Whitney's saw-gin invented for cleaning cotton.
 1798...Chloride of lime for bleaching patented by Mr. Tennant, of Glasgow.
 1801...Discharge work in printing successfully accomplished by Messrs. Peels.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.

(Nos. 3,269 and 3,272.)

[3,275.] The best "Life" of Sir Thomas Fairfax is that by Mr. C. R. Markham, published in 1870. Coleridge's *Northern Worthies*, vol. i., 1852; and *Cust's Lives of the Warriors*, may also be consulted. The *Fairfax Correspondence*, edited by G. W. Johnson and R. Bell, 4 vols., 1848-9, is a valuable memorial of the Civil War. There have been some interesting papers on Fairfax's American descendants in either *Harper* or *Scribner*; and a volume by E. D. Neill was published in 1868, entitled "The Fairfaxes in England and America in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries." S.

THE BIRCH FAMILY: BRADSHAW AND OGDEN.

(Nos. 3,253 and 3,265.)

[3,276.] Among the 1,023 gravestones that lay some twenty-five years ago in the yard surrounding the Manchester Cathedral was one (I say was, for a considerable number, owing to modern restoration, have since disappeared) which may interest Mr. H. B., of which the following is a copy:—

DOROTHY BRADSHAW,

Who died Nov. 18, 1766. Aged 82.

WM. GEE,

Buried May 1st, 1767.

In looking over the Cathedral Registers I find the following, which seem to refer to the above;—

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1685, Dec. 13. | { Alstone, son of Robert Bradshaw.
Baptized. |
| 1708, Sep. 2. | { Alstone Bradshaw and Dorothy Ogden.
Married.
[I don't find the baptism of Dorothy Ogden.] |
| 1711, Sep. 2. | { Hannah, Dau. of Holston Bradshaw.
Baptized.
[In another entry Austin Bradshaw is described as "fustian cutter."] |
| 1729, Nov. 17. | Aston Bradshaw buried. |
| 1743, April 9. | { William Gee and Hannah Bradshaw.
Married. |
| 1790, Sep. 23. | { Hannah Gee, Widow. Aged 79.
Buried. |

J. OWEN.

QUERIES.

[3,277.] "DEFENCE NOT DEFIANCE."—Who is the author of this motto, and when was it first applied to the Volunteer Force? R. BAGOT.

[3,278.] CYCLING.—Is there any, and what, saving of physical power in the use of a bicycle or tricycle? The rider of one of these machines has to propel

himself. How much less force does he expend in covering the same extent of ground than if he were walking or running? In other words, where and what is the gain?
ION.

[3,279.] THE PAINTER MARTIN PEPYN.—Information is desired respecting Martin Pepyn, said to have been born at Antwerp in 1575, admitted to the Guild of Painters there in 1600, resided and pursued the career of an artist for some time in Italy, and died in 1643; of whose works also it is recorded that Rubens was an admirer.

F. LEE.

[3,280.] PARODY OF TENNYSON'S BALAKLAVA CHARGE.—Can any of your readers furnish me with, or tell me where I can procure, a copy of the parody on Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade," which relates the story of a congregation of six hundred persons all falling asleep in a Scottish Highland Church?
INQUIRER.

Edinburgh.

[3,281.] NAME OF SECT.—About the year 1841 I used to play, with other children, under one of the railway arches between Ardwick Station and Union-street, Ardwick. Occasionally, on Sunday mornings, we had to remove from these playing quarters in order to make room for a gang of men who wore long coats and low-crowned broad-brimmed hats, and who carried long thin sticks with them. They went through some sort of a short service, during which one of their number stripped his back quite bare, and, kneeling down, bowed his head while the rest of his brethren laid on him well with their long lath-like sticks. Does any reader remember seeing a sight of this sort, or know any sect who practised this apparently unrighteous and wrongful "rite."

SAMUEL CHAPMAN.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

WEST DERBY ROAD, LIVERPOOL, Oct. 16.

I was much interested in Lieutenant-Colonel Sharratt's able letter in the *City News* of 13th inst. His idea of the grove or "trough" being a "Guide Track" is most ingenious, and the only one, besides the "trolley" and "skidding" theories, which need, seriously, be considered.

However, I think there are many objections to his view. In the first place he assumes that the road must have been made before the subjugation of the

Brigantes (the tribe which occupied this part of Britain); at least that is what I understand by his mentioning "an invading army;" and that the road was used for their subjugation, the Roman troops moving upon it, by night, in the midst of their Brigantian foes, or at least within sight of them had it been daylight. To me it seems almost impossible that such a massive and well-built road, could have been made until the country was in a settled state, and if in a settled state, why should such elaborate and costly precaution be taken for only the possibility of a night march upon the road, at some distant date. Besides Roman armies were not as a rule given to night attacks or marches, though no doubt there were a few instances of such. They generally intrenched themselves in a hastily made camp at the close of a day's march. This is so well known that it needs no comment.

The present double concave form of the bottom of the trough hardly accords with the idea that it was worn so by the feet of guides to bodies of troops. If any very extensive wear of this nature had taken place, I should imagine that the simple concave form would have been visible, as the feet of the guides would necessarily have been in the lowest part (centre) of the trough. But how many of these guides and others would it take to make any impression at all upon the trough? Were the Romans incessantly marching troops by night for four centuries along this road, and if so, would the number of guides who passed along it make any material difference to the bottom of the trough? On the other hand a "skid," or a three-wheeled vehicle (the centre wheel being in the trough) would wear the bottom into the double concave form, by the pressure upon the sides, and the abrasions upon these sides are clearly made by the wheels of vehicles.

In daylight no one, either soldier or civilian, would be likely to walk in such a confined hollow, when a fine road existed on each side of him, so that we must take Colonel Sharratt's view as referring to night traffic alone, which was not likely to be very extensive in such a bleak wild country as the "Edge" must have been then. It is true the Roman engineers followed in the wake of the armies laying down roads, but it was when a district had been subdued, and the roads became at once available for the bringing up of reinforcements and supplies.

My opinion as stated in *Roman Lancashire* (p. 60) is that both the "skid" and "trolley" were used

upon this road. A "skid" or brake of some sort was an absolute necessity for a heavily-laden vehicle descending the hill. W. THOMPSON WATKIN.

PIETHORNE, ROCHDALE, OCTOBER 16.

I read with much interest Lieutenant-Colonel Sharratt's communication on the Roman Road over Blackstone Edge in your issue of Saturday last, and as I was about the first person to suggest the wheel and brake theory in a paper read to the members of the Oldham Literary and Scientific Society, perhaps you will allow me space to say that I see no reason to change my ideas from anything said by Mr. Sharratt.

I have not had the advantage of a military training; therefore I am not prepared to say what mode of marching troops is the best for invading or retreating from hostile territory, but it seems to me that the Romans with their acuteness would not lay down a heavy ashlar channel course twelve inches wide and four inches deep, purposely to guide their soldiers over an exposed route in darkness, at which time it would be used only if used for a track at all.

For more than eighteen years I have resided at a considerable elevation on the range of hills of which Blackstone Edge is a continuation, but owing to the clearer atmosphere of these elevated uplands compared with a less pure atmosphere at the base, I have rarely seen the nights so dark when I could not see the road under my feet or discern objects at a short distance from me. Besides, if it were so dark that the Roman soldiers required a track to walk in, how must their less favoured foes have fared with the trackless moor only to march on?

The form of the channel is too regular and uniform to have been worn by the unsteady and irregular step of a human foot, unequal in size and tread. We may be referred to the wear of old steps and footstones, but let any person carefully make a comparison with these and the Blackstone Edge channel, and he will find that the former is more irregular, more wide, less mechanical in shape, and the upper curves more parabolic than the stiff-quarter curves on the upper edges of the Blackstone Edge channel. In fact it requires a strain on my imagination to conceive how an army marching in darkness could wear a channel so straight with two equal parallel grooves on each side so similar in every respect with a convex haunch between. A pedestrian laden with a heavy knapsack will find a narrow sunken channel a difficult path to follow

in the dark. Most of us are aware how difficult it is to walk steadily in the dark on a road over which we are unaccustomed to travel even without a knapsack, but it is worse to have our feet confined within a space of twelve inches.

I am not sure that this road was made during the time the Romans were invading England, but at a subsequent period to facilitate commercial intercourse between one town and another. It is an open question, therefore, whether the two depressions—one on each side of the track—were worn by the Roman war vehicles or by vehicles employed for trading and other purposes. The fact of the hollows not being worn deep is no proof that wheels were not the abrading agents. Owing to the great distance between the Roman stations the traffic would be slight, and it may be that this length of road was formed during the later Roman occupation. The wants and necessities of a people are felt only as the number increases.

I do not see how human feet covered with leather sandals could wear the hollows so evenly, to say nothing of the length of time required to perform the operation with a nearly frictionless shoe. It would require the feet of all the soldiers using the channel to step at right angles to the body or chest, which is very unlikely, as few people walk with their foot pointed straight to the front.

Why the men behind the "competent official" should be able to see him, and not the "guide track," or the sides of the road wants further explaining. Why also the Romans needed a Guide Track on Blackstone Edge and not elsewhere where movement of troops in the night was necessary is puzzling to a reflecting mind! Surely darkness prevailed in the night at other Roman stations as well as on Blackstone Edge.

I agree with Mr. Sharratt that this channel has been a guide track; but I claim it to have guided vehicular wheels and he claims it to have guided human feet. He views it from a military standpoint and I view it as a civilian. The road at this place has a gradient of about one in six. Vehicles coming down in darkness are much more liable to get off the track than human beings, and taking the collateral evidence manifest on other parts of the road I am of opinion that it was used solely for this purpose. That it was used as a water-channel no person will admit who knows how water behaves in flowing down a steep incline.

Mr. Sharratt deserves our warmest thanks for his theory of this controversial relic, and if we cannot agree with him we generously respect his opinions which, *cum grano*, are a further contribution towards the settlement of the use of the central channel on this old road, which is sure to become more interesting as years roll by.

WILLIAM WATTS.

CONISBOROUGH CASTLE.—The new part (29) of the Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Journal contains a paper by Mr. G. T. Clark on Conisborough Castle, whose keep takes high rank in the first class of Norman remains. Its masonry is so good and strong that in its wrecked condition it has stood the storms of ages without material loss, but rain and frost are beginning to tell on the upper portions. Mr. Clark says the upper part is in a shaky condition. "Still," he adds, "it is not so far gone but that a few pounds judiciously laid out upon it would save it. The upper two or three feet should be removed, stone by stone, and replaced with water-lime or cement." Cannot these "few pounds" be found to preserve this important relic?

A MANCHESTER MÆCENAS.—The *Academy* states that the monument to Zwingli to be erected at Zurich has been entrusted to Heinrich Natter, a Tyrolese living in Vienna, whose sketch won the first prize among forty-four. Natter, though as a sculptor self-made, feels himself deeply indebted to an English Mæcenas. While still a poor youth, he was enabled, by the liberality of the late Mr. Joseph Geldart, of Manchester, to pursue his artistic education. Mr. Geldart found him in the Galleria dell' Arte in Venice copying a Venus, recognized his genius, and made him a free student for years. He lived to see several considerable works of his *protégé*—Brunhilde, Wodan, Sigfrid, a number of portraits, and the Haydn for Vienna; but he died just before this last success—the only drawback to Natter's joy.

RARE BOOKS.—Two of the rarest books in the language, one from the early press of Caxton and the other from a contemporary typographer, whose name is unknown, have just been sold "from the library of a nobleman," understood to be the Earl of Devon, at a book auction of several days in London. The first-named, the Caxton, was Lydgate's *Lyf of Our Lady*, of which the only two perfect copies, besides Lord Devon's, are in the British Museum and the Bodleian. It was the subject of a tremendous contest between Mr. Quaritch and Mr. Toovey, which led to its being run up to the extraordinary sum of £880, at which price it became the property of Mr. Quaritch. The other fine old book was a copy of the famous Dame Juliana Berner's *Book of St. Albans*, dated 1486, and it vindicated its rank as a rare book of English interest by attaining the price of £600; but would probably have gone much higher, notwithstanding some small imperfections, if the internal condition of the volume had not suffered. It was bought by Mr. Ellis, after an exciting struggle with Mr. Quaritch. Only two perfect copies of this book are known, one in the library of Earl Spencer at Althorpe, the other in that of the Earl of Pembroke. Of copies more or less imperfect it is supposed there are only six in existence, one of which was sold last year at Christie's for £200.

Saturday, October 27, 1883.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER PERIODICALS: THE PHOENIX AND FALCON.

[3,282.] The following pen-names of writers in the Manchester periodicals, the *Phoenix* (1828), and *Falcon* (1831), may probably interest your readers:—

E. S. Craven.....	Mrs. E. S. Craven Green.
J. B.; J. Bolton; }	John Bolton Rogerson.
J. J.; N. N.	
G. H. W.	G. H. Winder.
R.; Sir Nolan; }	W. Rowlinson.
W. C. Lovell; }	
Maister Lovell; }	
J. A.	J. Anthony.
J. H.; W.; S.....	J. Hewitt.
E. R.	Elijah Ridings.
G***	William Willis.
T.	James Thompson.
D.	— Denning.

The above are given on the authority of the late R. W. Proctor, and are taken from notes in his handwriting in copies formerly belonging to him but now in the Reference Library, King-street. "A Legend of Manchester," which appeared in the *Phoenix*, he ascribes to John Hewitt. L.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE COTTON MANUFACTURE.

[3,283.] Allow me to add to the interesting and valuable table of the above, already given in the *City News* (Note No. 3,274), the following:—

In 1771 Arkwright, who was the first to develop the factory system, built his mill at Cromford. In 1775 Watts, the inventor of the steam engine, became connected with Boulton. At first their engines had not a rotary motion, but were used merely for lifting and pumping. The first of this kind erected in Manchester was planted at Arkwright's factory, which is still standing behind the corner of Shudehill and Miller's Lane. The mill was turned by water-power, the water being obtained from Shudehill pits in Swan-street, and also collected from the higher ground behind Swan-street and St. George's Road; and the engine was used to pump this water to a higher level. The mill was afterwards occupied by the father or grandfather of the late Mr. Samuel Simpson, solicitor. The first rotative engine ever applied to a cotton mill was supplied to Messrs. Robinson at Papplewick, in Nottinghamshire, in 1785.

In 1789 one was supplied to Mr. Drinkwater, in Auburn-street, nearly opposite to London Road Station; the mill is still standing, and in the occupation of Mr. George Freemantle. Robert Owen, who, fifty years afterwards, laid the foundation stone of the Hall of Science in Campfield, was a manager in this mill, and lived in York-street. Arkwright did not apply direct steam power to turn his machinery till 1790, at Nottingham.

J. T. SLUGG.

* * *

Permit me to make a remark or two on the interesting Chronology given in your Notes last week.

Under the head "1675—Calico-printing introduced into England," I presume the compiler means that *printed calicoes* had been introduced into England as all our calico at that time came from India and had its name from Calicut, its source. If a print-works was established on the Thames at Richmond it would be for the printing of either this Indian calico, or of native linen. Baines says that about the year 1750 it was computed that fifty thousand pieces of linen and cotton goods were annually printed in Great Britain, and chiefly in the neighbourhood of London. The cloth was principally of the kind called 'Blackburn greys,' being woven at Blackburn, of linen warf and cotton weft." This was of course block-printing, such as was in use for printing "challi" and "mousseline-de-laine," about 1840, and is still in use for the printing of wall-papers. According to the same authority calico printing was introduced into Lancashire by Messrs. Clayton in 1764—to be followed by the Peels, father and son, more vigorously. But printed linen was in the market as far back as 1803-4. My mother had a patchwork quilt partially composed of printed-linens, one small pink-and-white pattern, of which had been brought home as a present to make a frock for her about that time, a circumstance fixed in the mind by the child's disappointment at finding the anticipated "present" a mere frock, and not the toys she had promised herself and companions.

"1798—Chloride of Lime for bleaching, patented by Mr. Tennant, of Glasgow." Yes, Mr. Tennant, of Glasgow, did take out a patent for chloride of lime, but—thereby hangs a tale. He took out a patent for another man's discovery, and then prosecuted the discoverer for infringement of his patent. Some years ago it was stated in *Chambers' Magazine* that Mr. Tennant was the discoverer. I was not then in a position to

contradict the statement, seeing that unsupported testimony goes for nothing. My grandfather was James Varley, bleacher, of Bolton, Lancashire, and afterwards of Manchester, drysalter (he turned *that* business over to two young men in his employ, Messrs. Walker and Bower), and of Higginson Brow, Pendleton, bleacher, and manufacturer of chloride of lime and cream of tartar, also, as I understood, his own discovery.

I only remember my grandfather as a tall, awe-inspiring old gentleman, with a library in languages unintelligible to me, and a tongue almost as unintelligible through paralysis, though I was told he understood fourteen languages. He lived with his old housekeeper in a cottage on the top of the Brow, and had a range of fine gardens between that and the Works at the foot, facing the shaft of Fitzgerald's coal-pits. As I remember the story I was told as a child, it was this. A dismissed workman carried to Mr. Tennant the bleaching process in use by his late employers, Messrs. Slater, Varley, and Slater; that Mr. Tennant thereupon took out a patent, and entered an action against Messrs. S., V., and S. for infringement. That grandfather Varley was a *détenué* in France at the time the action was commenced, that it was tried in several courts, and finally in Chancery before Lord Ellenborough, and that though he "won" his cause it cost him £10,000. Be this as it may, I have before me now the printed record of the "Proceedings in a suit in Chancery and the Trial of a cause instituted in the Court of King's Bench, by Messrs. Tennant, Mackintosh, Knox, Cooper, and Dunlop, in the name of Mr. Charles Tennant, of Darnley, near Glasgow, against Messrs. James Slater, James Varley, and Joseph Slater, near Bolton, Lancashire, for infringing on a patent obtained by Mr. Tennant for substituting calcareous earths instead of alkalis in preparing the oxygenated muriatic acid used in bleaching, and for substituting these earths for alkalis in the other parts of the process of bleaching, before Lord Ellenborough, Chief Justice of England and a special jury, at Guildhall, on Thursday, December 23, 1802." In the course of the trial apparatus was exhibited, workmen, chemists, and others were examined, and the plaintiff produced a former partner of my grandfather's to strengthen their cause. He only proved animus and a partnership broken at the end of a year, apparently because James Varley, "who had the direction and making of the bleaching liquor," "was always

trying schemes," and in trying those schemes with lime which was destructive he "destroyed a great deal of goods." I am neither sufficiently legal nor sufficiently scientific to analyze the body of evidence so as to substantiate my grandfather's claim as the original discoverer, but I was always so assured, and it would seem that judge and jury had a like assurance, for after Lord Ellenborough's remark to the jury that he might have non-suited the plaintiff from the first, from the specification, and the assurance of their foreman that they had "been perfectly satisfied for a long time," the Lord Chief Justice says, "It is a scandalous patent, as unfounded in all sorts of merit as it is in law." Mr. Erskine, the counsel for the plaintiff, admits, "I do not differ at all from your lordship;" and the trial concludes thus:—Lord Ellenborough says, "Gentlemen, this is not an uncommon case. In the course of my situation as Attorney-General, I had often occasion to see men coming for patents who had actually stolen the thing from a man who was at the same time applying." Mr. Erskine: "I had rather be non-suited." The plaintiff non-suited.

In different encyclopædias I have seen Tennant's patent mentioned, in some with the additional statement that the patent had been set aside on the ground of "prior use;" but in no one case do I see the name of James Varley mentioned in connection therewith.

I am afraid I have trespassed considerably on your valuable space; but I think you will scarcely object to a tardy act of justice to a dead and forgotten scientific man, seeing that his discovery has a higher claim on public grounds than as a mere bleaching powder. It was the only disinfectant during the great cholera periods, and is the base of many of the disinfectants now in use.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX.

(Nos. 3,269, 3,272, and 3,275.)

[3,284.] Your correspondent querist will find, among the second series (volume iv.) of Isaac D'Israeli's *Curiosities of Literature*, an essay entitled "Anecdotes of the Fairfax Family," which he may find of value in his researches.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

THE PAINTER MARTIN PEPYN.

(Query No. 3,279, October 20.)

[3,285.] Information respecting Martin Pepyn may be found in the following works:—Bryan's Dictionary of Painters and Engravers; and Pilkington's Dictionary of Painters (vol. ii.) 1829. Both writers give 1578 as the date of his birth; the date of his death is uncertain. The name is spelt "Pepin" in both instances.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

"DEFENCE, NOT DEFIANCE."

(Query No. 3,277, October 20.)

[3,286.] Mr. John B. Marsh (formerly, I think, the editor of a Chester newspaper) originated the motto "Defence, not defiance," in or about the year 1860. He was a member of the fifth (or press) company of the 40th Lancashire (Third Manchester) Rifle Volunteers during the time I held its captaincy—from March, 1860, to March, 1862. JOHN S. MAYSON.

* * *

The author of this motto was Mr. J. B. Marsh, formerly on the reporting staff of the *Manchester Examiner*, and an ensign in the Fifth or Press Company of the Third M.R.V., and was given by him to that regiment about the year 1860. It was shortly after adopted by other regiments.

R. E. JOHNSON.

* * *

As an officer of the regiment, I was present at the parade of the Third Manchester, in the College Yard, on Saturday the fifth of May, 1860, when the commanding officer, Major John Snowdon Henry, addressing the corps, said that he had received a note from Private J. B. Marsh, of No. 5 Company, suggesting as a motto for the regiment the words, "Defence, not Defiance," and announced its adoption to the satisfaction of all present. Mr. Marsh was called to the front and congratulated by Major Henry upon his happy suggestion. The motto has ever since been impressed upon the buttons and other metal portions of the uniform.

THOMAS NOTON,

Formerly Lieutenant and Treasurer of the Corps.
Rusholme.

CYCLING.

(Query No. 3,278, October 20.)

[3,287.] I suppose the saving of power by the use of a cycle is shown in the difference of results obtained by this mode of progression and those obtained by walking and running. Twenty miles has several times been ridden by bicyclists in an hour on the path;

Major Knox Holmes, a gentleman seventy-seven years of age, has recently ridden a tricycle fifty-three miles in five hours on the Crystal Palace path; two hundred and fifty-nine miles have been ridden by a bicyclist on the road in one day; a tricyclist has ridden from London to John o' Groats at the rate of eighty miles a day; and a bicyclist, from the latter place to the Land's End at the rate of one hundred miles a day. In the last case but one the rider increased in weight during the journey. If ION will compare these results with the best obtainable by walking and running, he will arrive at an approximate conclusion as to the power saved by cycling.

The average untrained man will find about twenty miles the limit of a pleasurable day's walk, if it has to be continued day after day; the average untrained cyclist will easily ride fifty to sixty miles under the same conditions. There is absolutely no comparison in the pleasure afforded by the two means of progression; and the fatigue produced by walking is greater and more general, and takes longer to recover from, than that produced by cycling. As Dr. Richardson says, cycling has practically been the means of endowing man with a new faculty.

The chief disadvantage attending the walker is that he has to carry his own weight; which he accomplishes by alternately lifting and letting down, the latter movement producing a jar upon the knee. The cyclist places his one hundred and fifty pounds on a machine weighing fifty pounds, and propels both, using his power in the most economical manner by an almost vertical action, his legs being entirely unhampered by the weight of his body. Indeed a good rider progresses almost solely by the use of his ankles.

No one can say how much less force is expended in covering the same extent of ground as a walker, as the power expended by a cyclist varies every mile. Our only guide is the rough average result. The progress of the cyclist is opposed by the resistance of the air, and the friction of the road and machine. Ball-bearings have practically eliminated the latter, so that on a perfectly smooth and flat path, on a still day, the rate of speed is only limited by the impossibility of moving the legs any faster. Of course roads are neither perfectly smooth nor level, nor is the air generally quiescent. In consequence of this, distance covered does not itself alone express the power saved by the cyclist, as his average speed over a long

journey (I speak of pleasure riding) will not be much more than double that of the walker. As far as I can judge it takes about the same expenditure of power to walk one mile as it does, under ordinary conditions, for a good rider to ride a bicycle five miles.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

THE GUIDE TRACK THEORY.

FAIRFIELD, MANCHESTER, October 22.

The fair and courteous criticisms which my Guide Track theory has evoked from two eminent antiquaries, Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, the author of *Roman Lancashire*, and Mr. William Watts, F.G.S., the able engineer of the Oldham Waterworks, have neither given me surprise nor shaken my faith. Strange to say, both gentlemen take much care to refute an imaginary idea, that the Guide Track was formed by the sandalled feet of Roman soldiers. Such is not my idea. My statement was as follows: "Both in its shape and also its dimensions this Guide Track is no doubt an artificial arrangement, suggested by the wear of stones subjected to the constant tread of human feet, within lateral restrictions." In other words, it is the work of the mason's chisel imitating on hard stone the tread of the human foot upon softer substances. One paragraph by Mr. Watkin and two by Mr. Watts are thus disposed of.

Again, I stated clearly that the "impedimenta" of an army on the march, as well as the "transport of military stores" at other times, conveyed in "baggage vehicles," would require the services of a guide in crossing this swampy mountain region, especially in dark or stormy weather. I also said, "In more peaceful days also, when ordinary traffic, perhaps in opposite directions, was conducted in obscure light or unfavourable weather, how advantageous would be this Guide Track to weary travellers."

Whether this famous road was constructed by Agricola to enable his invading army to cross this dangerous mountain swamp in night attacks upon the open country beyond the pass is scarcely a subject for doubt. Most probably he was strongly encamped on the conquered region west of the Pennine chain

which itself was a protection against any surprise from the warlike Brigantes on the other side. With such ample protection, and no lack of either material or trained pioneers, it is most likely that so brave and prudent a general would seize such a favourable opportunity to construct a road suited at once to his present emergency, and likewise capable of sustaining the great traffic of reinforcements and stores necessary in pushing forward his legions through the country of the hostile and courageous Brigantes. Agricola was, as Tacitus relates, a wise and far-seeing man as well as a successful and brave general, and in this wonderful piece of engineering work his greatness has been perpetuated to the present day. This is my answer to the objection that "such a massive and well-built road could not have been made until the country was in a settled state."

I am prepared to explain and illustrate, at a favourable opportunity, that both the form and dimensions of the central groove, as chiselled out by the Roman mason, would be the best arrangement possible for a pedestrian shod with the Roman sandal, or even a modern shoe with a pliable sole, to surmount the steep incline at unfavourable times. Let explorers try the effect of walking in the groove. The ability and tact with which the "wheel and skid" theory claimed by Mr. Watts, so well advocated by Dr. Marsh, and adopted "at least to some extent" by Mr. Watkin in his *Roman Lancashire*, has been introduced by them, must excite our admiration; but the subject is exposed to many and serious objections, too numerous and grave to be dealt with in a short communication like the present. With no desire nor intent to ignore the careful investigations of other truth-seekers, I venture to submit only one, and that a fatal difficulty, which must present itself to every observer of the curbstones at the corners of many thoroughfares in Manchester and other towns, deeply worn as they are by the "skidding of wheels," the work of only a very few years at most. Surely had the central stones of the Roman road, now our study and our admiration, been subjected to the skidding of wheels during only the four centuries of the Roman occupation, the present almost perfect Guide Track must (being merged in the side pavements of the road) have ages ago "vanished like the baseless fabric of a vision and left not a wrack behind."

W. SHARRATT,

Lieutenant-Colonel.

ANOTHER THEORY.

CLIFTON VILLAS, URMSTON.

Having recently visited the Roman Road on Blackstone Edge, and carefully considered the various theories and explanations which have been put forward respecting the central trough, I was much pleased to find in your issue of the 13th instant that our gallant and much respected friend Colonel Sharratt had taken the subject up, and had favoured the public with his views touching the use which this celebrated trough was intended to serve. The theory enunciated by Colonel Sharratt may be described as novel and very ingenious, and at first sight presents a certain degree of plausibility. On closer examination, however, the difficulties which start into view are so numerous and of such a character as to render its acceptance, to say the least, very doubtful. Some of these objections have been clearly and fully stated by Mr. Thompson Watkin and supported by Mr. Watts in your columns, and do not therefore call for any amplification by me. I may, however, say that the arguments made use of by those gentlemen have my entire approval.

As among the numerous theories which have from time to time been advocated, no one has completely met the full requirements of the case, and been of so convincing a character as to secure for it general acceptance, I venture, notwithstanding the voluminous nature of the correspondence which has already taken place, and at the risk of being considered somewhat tedious, to suggest that there is yet one other aspect of the question which so far appears to have escaped the attention of those who have previously written upon the subject, and which seems to my mind to fulfil all the exigencies of the case more completely than any of the hypotheses which have preceded it.

It will I think be conceded by all who have made an examination of the road on the westerly side of the hill, that there are four lines of wheel tracks or ruts distinctly impressed upon the surface of the road, two on each side of the trough, the nearer one occurring 2ft. 3in. and the outer one 4ft. 6in. from the central line. It is therefore evident that in connection with the track 4ft. 6in. distant, that one wheel must have followed the line of groove whilst the other moved on the pavement at the distance already stated, the other two tracks at 2ft. 3in. distance from the central groove having been produced by the

wheels of the carriages moving along the centre of the road with one wheel on each side of the trough, half the width of the carriage distant from it (i.e. 2ft. 3in.), whilst the feet of the horses would follow the central groove. At certain places the sides of the trough—as pointed out by Dr. March—show unmistakable indications of abrasion as if produced by the action of wheels rubbing forcibly against them; assuming that the worn sides were thus produced, and that the wheels were purposely kept in this position by the drivers of the vehicles in such a manner as to act as a brake in descending the steep incline, it follows, as a natural consequence, that the wheels being held against the outer boundaries of the groove in one definite line would wear down that portion where they moved more rapidly than the central one, which was comparatively free from wear and tear, and thus in time give rise to the two-side depressions and the central dividing ridge, the origin of which has given rise to so much speculation and such a wealth of correspondence. I may add that by a careful measurement it will be found that the outer lines of ruts do not occur at 4ft. 6in. from the centre of the trough, but 4ft. 6in. from the centre of the two side depressions, showing clearly that those were the lines followed by the wheels.

Dr. March some time ago suggested the idea that carriages on descending this steep hill side, one wheel would move freely along the channel whilst the other would be skidded along on the pavement, the effect of which, he concludes, would be to keep the wheel in the groove forced against the side nearest to the skidded wheel. The principal objection to this theory arises from the fact that the ruts in which the skidded wheels would have to slide show no signs whatever of having been subjected to such violent friction. On the contrary, so far as my observations go, they are alike both as to width and depth, and in all respects conform to those which occur 2ft. 3in. from the centre, where it will be conceded that no such action was resorted to.

The foregoing explanation applies to vehicles descending the hill, while those travelling in an opposite direction would naturally resort to the central and most elevated part of the road, the horses walking along the central track, the feet of which, being confined to a narrow groove about 14 inches wide, would of necessity be thrown against its outer edges, and thus by the mechanical friction acting on the same lines as those followed by the

wheels, tend further to wear down and deepen the side channels.

The supposition that the groove was connected with the breaking of carriages down the steepest side of the hill is supported by the fact that it only exists in that position as a continuous design. On attaining the crest of the hill the central stones, though still present, cease to be channelled, and although at some short distance further on the channel reappears for a few yards, yet, speaking broadly, it may be described as ceasing to exist after passing the summit of the hill, a fact quite consistent with the hypotheses here suggested, but at variance with if not fatal to that suggested by Colonel Sharratt.

Whether the views here expressed will be received as a satisfactory explanation of the origin of this interesting but vexatious groove or not, or whether it will suffer the fate of most of its predecessors—live for a day and then be superseded by some more plausible theory—I am not able to say, but I venture to think that on a careful examination it will be found to go further towards explaining the whole of the phenomena surrounding this puzzle than any which have preceded it. As such I offer it to the readers of your columns.

From careful measurements made I ascertained that the road, after crossing the summit of the hill in an easterly direction, is reduced to fourteen feet in width, whilst on the west it attains a uniform width of sixteen feet—a fact I believe not previously noticed.

JOHN AITKEN.

GENERALS OF THE JESUITS.—A new Vicar-General of the Jesuits has just been elected, as coadjutor with right of succession to the aged Father Beckx, who has held the office of General for above thirty years, and is now eighty-eight. The new Vicar-General's name is Anderledy, and he is a German Swiss. A German newspaper having asserted that it had always been the custom of the Jesuits not to select an Italian as General of their Order, the *Moniteur de Rome* gives a list of the twenty-two generals of the Jesuits, from the foundation of the company to the present time, proving that eleven were Italians—namely, the Fathers Aquaviva, Vitelleschi, Caraffa, Piccolomini, Gottifredi, Oliva, Tamburini, Visconti, Centurioni, Ricci, and Fortis. There have been four Spaniards—Ignatius Loyola, Jacques Lainez, Francis Borgia, and Gonzalez. Germany has likewise given four generals to the order—Mercurian, Nickel, Retz, and Anderledy, the future general, who is a German Swiss. Holland and Belgium have furnished three—Noyelle, Rothaan, and Beckx. No French, English, or Portuguese Jesuit has ever attained to this dignity.

Saturday, November 3, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

DEFENCE, NOT DEFIANCE.

(Nos. 3,277 and 3,286.)

[3,288.] In justice to a literary veteran (who has suggested many good things and helped along many a good cause in his time, but without receiving a superabundance of credit) it cannot be right to say, if your various correspondents are correct with their dates, that Mr. John B. Marsh originated the above motto for the Volunteer Force. "Defence, not Defiance," was the title of a ballad by Martin F. Tupper, published in the newspapers during June, 1859, and suggested by him as the Volunteers' motto. Mr. Tupper was strongly interested in the formation of Rifle Clubs, and between 1848 and 1860 he published a number of stirring ballads and songs, wrote letters to the newspapers, and magazine articles on the subject, notably "Cheap Security" in the *Dublin University Magazine*, August, 1858. These particulars (and more, suggesting the Volunteer Force as at present organized) can be verified by reference to a six-penny pamphlet published by Routledge, Warnes, and Routledge, in May, 1859, entitled *Some Verse and Prose about National Rifle Clubs*, by Martin F. Tupper. I quote the particular poem, headed with the motto suggested for the Volunteer Force.

DEFENCE, NOT DEFIANCE.

Nearer the muttering thunders roll,
Blacker and heavier frown the sky;
Yet our dauntless English soul
Faces the storm with a steady eye;
Hands are strong where hearts are stout;
Our rifles are ready—look out!

No one wishes the storm to roll here—
No one cares such a devil to raise;
And in brotherhood, not in fear,
Only for peace an Englishman prays;
Yet he may shout in the midst of the rout,
Our rifles are ready—look out?

Keep to your own, like an honest man,
And here's our hand and here's our heart;
Let the world see how wisely you can
Play to the end a right neighbourly part;
But if mischief is creeping about,
Our rifles are ready—look out!

No defiance is on our lips,
Nothing but kindness greets you here;
Still in the storm our dolphin ships
Round the Eddystone dart and steer;
And on shore—no doubt, no doubt—
Our rifles are ready—look out!

Not Defiance, but only Defence,
Hold we forth for humanity's sake;
And, with the help of Omnipotence,
We shall stand when the mountains quake;
Only in Him our hearts are stout;
Our rifles are ready—look out!

The foregoing verses were extensively published during the year 1859, filling a corner in many newspapers; and Mr. Marsh, of course, as a journalist, had the best of opportunities of meeting with the poem. He could not fail to recognize the very appropriate suggestion that "Defence, not Defiance," would be an excellent motto for the Volunteer Force; and so, the year following, he was doubtless prompted to convey this opinion to the commanding officer of his regiment. But I cannot think that Mr. Marsh (of whom I had some knowledge) would claim for himself the authorship of the "happy suggestion." T. G.

Liverpool.

QUERIES.

[3,289.] **AUTHORSHIP.**—Who is the author of the following passage:—"Every puny clerk now carries the time of day in his pocket?" J. E. TAYLOR.

[3,290.] **ORDSALL AND ANCIENT MANCHESTER REMAINS.**—(1) Can any of your readers give me the true derivation of the name "Ordsall?" (2) Dr. Hibbert-Ware, in his *Foundations of Manchester* (appendix), gives a description and drawing of a cave covered with Runic inscriptions, at the end of a lane near Ordsall Hall, called Woden's or Odin's Cave. Where was it, and do any traces of it exist? (3) He also mentions certain stone remains—a head, a bas-relief of the crusader, with a war hammer, and other objects—dug up at Knott Mill on the site of the Roman camp, and which he thinks were part of a church dedicated to St. Michael. He says these stones were placed in the Natural History Museum of Manchester. Where are they now? ANTIQUARY.

[3,291.] **THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.**—Will some one kindly explain the precise position of the Chetham Library; how it is administered, and who are its governors or committee? The Library, as managed now and for a long time past, presents the melancholy spectacle of a fine and valuable institution which is in a great measure wasted and almost useless. Thousands upon thousands of books remain upon its shelves from year to year, untouched and unregarded. Even more lamentable is the fact that persons engaged in special researches have been unable to obtain access to the books and manuscripts which they required.

One or two of my friends could relate some curious experiences of the irritating obstacles which have been placed in their way, particularly by the late Mr. Crossley. It is to be hoped that an attempt will be made, and soon, to render the Library more widely useful and its contents more accessible. To this end it is in the first place necessary to know clearly how the Library is governed and controlled, who are the managing trustees or committee, what are their rights, duties, and powers, what they do, and whether they are in any way amenable to the forces which influence other institutions founded for the public good.

J. H. N.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

THE GUIDE TRACK THEORY.

WEST DERBY ROAD, LIVERPOOL.

I was glad to see Colonel Sharratt's letter in your last week's issue, though I cannot see that it does away with my objections to the Guide Track theory. It is unfortunate that I had not the pleasure of meeting the gallant officer during the excursion of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society to the road, as we might have had some discussion on the spot, for he seems to have "improved the occasion" by making a close examination, whatever may have been the decision he has arrived at.

One point in Colonel Sharratt's last letter requires notice. He says, "Surely had the central stones of the Roman road, now our study and our admiration, been subjected to the skidding of wheels during only the four centuries of the Roman occupation, the present almost perfect Guide Track must (being merged in the side pavements of the road) have ages ago vanished." Assuming that the traffic was so great, and the wear and tear so considerable (which I much doubt), has it never occurred to Colonel Sharratt that, as in the case of modern roads, the "trough" stones and setts may from time to time have been renewed? That there was any traffic worth mentioning, in post-Roman times, on the road, is very improbable. We thus shall have the pavement as it existed at the close of the Roman domination.

W. THOMPSON WATKIN.

FAIRFIELD, MANCHESTER.

Should the present fine weather lead any explorers to visit this relic of antiquity which is little more than a mile from Littleborough Station, I sincerely

hope they will try the effect of walking in the central track of the road. If the soles of their boots are moderately pliable, as those of the Roman sandals were, they will be agreeably surprised by the ease and comfort of their progress, the double curve at the bottom of the track exactly suiting the natural tread of human feet, both in shape and dimensions. Such an experience will, I firmly believe, make more converts to the Guide Track theory than even the strong and numerous arguments that exist in its favour.

I have recently made some experiments with persons of varying physique to ascertain what average width of space their feet covered in the ordinary act of walking. Strange to say, I find by actual measurements that the extreme width of path covered by the feet of pedestrians varies from ten to twelve inches, the latter being almost exactly the width of the central trough measured across the bottom or treading part; showing clearly that both in shape and width the track is well-suited for walking purposes. Its depth, also, which is four inches, prevents the walker, even with closed eyes, from straying, as in darkness, to the right or the left, and so enabling him, if necessary, to lead men, horses, or vehicles in safety, and without deviation, a most important matter; indeed a vital one at certain times in traversing this elevated region of swamp.

In *Roman Lancashire* Mr. Watkin records his observations that each of the six-foot paved spaces on both sides of the track, bear marks of *three* wheel tracks, the inner and the outer being about four inches each in width, and the middle one about seven inches. If skids were used at all this wider track of seven inches (not the Guide Track) would be the path of a "drag" composed of a stone attached by a chain, and capable of being supplemented by a human or other weight, this rude process being still used in remote hilly districts, the two other four-inch ruts being the ordinary wheel tracks. Thus we have two independent paved roads each six feet wide, which being used if necessary, one as an up road and the other a down road, would be used continuously, for the double traffic without risk of collision such as must be of constant occurrence if the skidding theory existed in the central trough. On urgent occasions both roads would probably be used as up roads at stated periods. By this simple arrangement the horses would have a good footing, and would

not be tortured by the sideward process of skidding; and the vehicles having their wheels level, or on the same plane, would not be constantly on the point of tumbling over. But why all this trouble about skidding, when the advancing Romans were travelling eastward, and their loaded vehicles were constantly moving up the western slope, only descending on the return journey empty for more supplies. The eastern slope of the road being less precipitous and passing through a "cutting" as it does, would require less provision for a guiding path, which accounts for the track being less deep and regular on that side of the mountain.

It is remarkable that the wheel tracks here spoken of, as well as the wider track of seven inches, scarcely deviate in the least from their parallelism with the central Guide Track, showing how carefully the trained guides directed their course, as was absolutely necessary from their dangerous surroundings.

Another element should be noted which shows the very slight necessity for any skidding whatever, viz., the smallness of the two-horsed vehicles used in ancient days, whether for military or civil purposes, and the corresponding smallness of the loads (see illustrations of Roman antiquities). It is highly probable that little care was needed for checking their progress, and that that little was supplied by manual power.

As I have before stated, the very exceptional condition of this mountain grass required the special provision and use of a guide track, and, whether in the exciting times of warfare and invasion, or during the long succeeding years of peaceful travel, the safety of human life and limb, as well as the preservation of horses and goods in transit called for such precautions in dark and stormy weather. The exceptional abrasions, not running uniformly down the track but occurring only here and there, are doubtless the effects of occasional accidents, the struggle to extricate a stray wheel that by neglect or otherwise had slipped into the Guide Track. The very existence of the track in almost its primitive condition is proof of the absence of the destructive skidding of wheels or the great wear from the feet of horses; while the simple tread of a limited number of guides shod with the soft, pliable Roman sandal would leave the path almost unimpaired for ages, as the Guide Track in question witnesses to this very day.

W. SHARRATT.

Lieutenant-Colonel.

ROBERT BURNS'S DESCENDANTS.—Robert Burns's third son, Lieutenant-Colonel James Glencairn Burns, left a daughter by his first marriage named Sarah, who married Dr. Berkeley Hutchison, of Cheltenham, and who has a son and three daughters. These are the great-grandchildren of the poet, and are his only direct and lawful descendants. James Burns was twice married, and by his second marriage he also left a daughter, who is still Miss Burns, and who resides at Cheltenham with her half-sister.

THE JESUITS.—According to a report just published, the Company of Jesus continues to flourish, in spite of persecution. The Order is divided into five great provinces. Italy and her islands contain 1,558 Jesuit Fathers; Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, and the Netherlands counting 2,165. France (including the French possessions) has the highest number, 2,798 Jesuits. Spain and Mexico have 1,933. England and the United States have 1895 disciples of Loyola. In 1882 there were in all 11,058 Jesuits—priests, professors, and coadjutors. In 1870 the Order counted 10,529 members; in 1880, 10,494; and in 1881, 10,798.

HIGH SPEED IN EXPRESS TRAINS.—Express trains are the subject of a remarkable contribution to the Statistical Society's Journal this month. According to the author high speed by trains is conducive to great care and the finest work on the part of railway engineers. He thinks, in short, that in the matter of railway speed, "If 'twere well that it were done, 'twere well it were done quickly." The tendency evidently is towards greater speed. During the last ten years the average speed of express trains has increased two and a half miles an hour, while the weight of trains hauled is on the average nearly half as much again as it was ten years ago. The formula may be adopted, and apparently with truth: mechanical energy increases as the square of the speed, and the higher the speed the better the work.

REVIVAL OF THE SPINNING WHEEL.—Mr. Albert Fleming, of Longbrigg, Ambleside, is making an attempt to bring back the use of the spinning wheel and the fine home industry of which it was once the instrument. He writes—"Many years ago Wordsworth lamented the disuse of the Spinning Wheel in the dales of Westmoreland. The poet says that the wheel was a cure for grief and care, that it composed the throbbing pulse, and had various other healthful influences, all of which you will find melodiously set forth in his XIXth Sonnet. I am trying in a small way to re-establish the industry in this quiet corner of the world. I shall lend the wheels to the cottagers and teach them how to spin and (at first) give them the wool and flax, and buy it back when spun. I am aware that this method of business will not commend itself to the ordinary commercial mind. As a factor in cottage life nothing (Elias Howe to the contrary notwithstanding) has taken the place of the Spinning Wheel, and if we are able to brighten (not unprofitably) some weary hours, and to give work to some old hands, then we shall begin to think the good old influences yet linger round the Spinning Wheel. If any of your readers are old-fashioned enough to care for hand-spun and hand-woven linen, or unpractical enough in this utilitarian age to give us a good word and wish, let them write to me."

Saturday, November 10, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.

(Query No. 3,291, November 3.)

[3,292.] J. H. N. puts some pertinent questions concerning this Library, which during the librarianship of Mr. Thomas Jones was certainly not in the neglected state it would appear to be now. At one time I frequently enunciated my opinion that every Manchester author was in duty bound (no less than in justice to himself) to deposit in the Chetham Library a copy of every book he or she might give to the world. William Harrison Ainsworth did it, and I followed his laudable example, duly sending my three volumes as they appeared; and so long as Mr. Jones was living the receipt was not only acknowledged personally by him, but formally by the council of trustees. But after he died no acknowledgment came of the volume sent. I wrote to my old friend Mr. Crossley, but could never be assured the book or books had been received (there was a volume of poems as well as novels). Visiting Manchester, I made it my business to go to the College, but I could find no one acting as librarian competent to answer my questions or to guard the treasures on the dusty shelves. I was told that Mr. Crossley acted as librarian until a librarian was appointed, but that he was then at home and not well. I went to see him at Stocks' House, but he was quite oblivious with respect to the receipt of the books; would inquire, but I never heard the result of such inquiry. Consequently, though I have had several other books published since then, I have sent no more. Not from any change of sentiment with respect to the Library, but because I had lost faith in the bibliopole who, being president of the College, absorbed to himself the office of librarian also without performing the proper functions of that office. James Crossley's great Ego overshadowed Humphrey Chetham, it seemed to me.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

ORDSALL AND ANCIENT MANCHESTER REMAINS.

(Query No. 3,290, November 3.)

[3,293.] At different times I have met with the name Ordsall spelt as follows:—

Urdsale	Urdesale	Hordeshall
Ordeshal	Ordsale	Oardsal
Oardsall	Ordsal	Ordsall
Worsall	Wordsal	Wordsall

ANTIQUARY will perceive that this list affords con-

siderable orthographical latitude, if it does not straightway furnish an answer to his Query. I am not prepared to reconcile with each other the preceding dozen different versions of the name (half of which may be printers' errors for aught I know), but will proceed to mention a few facts in support of the last example—Wordsal or Wordsall.

Some time ago I examined with care the fine collection of old maps of Lancashire preserved in the Binns Collection, Liverpool, and I then found that prior to 1770 or thereabouts, the place-name referred to is invariably spelled either Wordsall or Wordsal. The first appearance of the modern spelling "Ordsall" is on Stockdale's Map, 1794. Now, as to the meaning of the name. "Sal" is probably the Anglo-Saxon "sale," a hall, whilst the prefix "word" may not improbably be a corruption of "worden" or "woden"—thus "Wordenshall," from the adjacent Woden's Cave.

(2) With regard to Woden's Cave (all trace of which has long since vanished) I possess a large scale Ordnance map showing the Ordsall district as it existed thirty years ago, upon which the "Site of Woden's Den" is exhibited as occupying a position on the westerly side of Ordsall Lane close to the roadway, and nearly opposite old Hulme Hall.

(3) ANTIQUARY in his third Query refers to certain ancient stone remains found (according to Dr. Ware) in or near the Roman Camp on Castle Field, and which he (Dr. Ware) endeavours to prove belonged originally to some Church of St. Michael which he believes formerly stood in the neighbourhood of Knott Mill. Apart from the fact that it is extremely doubtful if a church ever existed here before the eighteenth century A.D., I think a careful examination of the stones themselves (which were until recently in Peel Park, at the end of one of the walks leading down to the ornamental water) will lead to the conclusion that they are, most probably, of Roman origin. One of the trio (a sphinx-like head) closely resembles a piece of sculpture discovered near Lancaster, and faithfully depicted (page 180, fig. 4) in Mr. Thompson Watkin's valuable monograph, *Roman Lancashire*.
JAQRS.

* * *

Ordsal, Ordsale, or Ordsall in local records, is only mentioned in a very casual manner. I think the earliest record of Ordsal is as the seat of a branch of the great de Redcliffe family over 500 years ago; it has been asserted that the present Ordsal Hall is the

oldest baronial hall in England. In 1869 a photographic album of views of the hall, with an introduction, was published by Mr. W. Hindshaw for private circulation. There is another Ordsall near Retford with a population of about 2,000. This is likewise an ancient place, and it will be of some interest to know which is the oldest. The de Redcliffs had estates in Nottinghamshire.

I have an impression that Ordsal is an older word than Salford. It has a Scandinavian sound, and it is possible that some light may be thrown upon the word by those familiar with that—at one time nearly universal—language of Northern Europe. There are six if not more Salfords in England, and many ingenious but no accepted derivations of the word have been given.

Ordsal Hall stands on the bank of the river Irwell, not far from the old ford at Throstle Nest. Salford Old Bridge is often alluded to in old chronicles and ballads. It was the only bridge in the district, and the road to Cheshire was over it. Anyone looking at the map will see that the nearest way from Victoria Station to Stretford is along Ordsal Lane through Salford, and over the river again at Throstle Nest. This road from Salford Old Bridge, now called Victoria Bridge, went right past the hall to this old ford. Some suppose it to be the strait ford which gives the name to the district on the opposite bank. This ford no doubt would be called Ordsal ford by the people of the northern side of the river, and from this soon corrupted to Sal-ford. This derivation seems probable, and I am not aware if it has ever been suggested before.

The other queries, about the cave especially, which I examined over twenty years ago, I will endeavour to write about in a future Note.

W. H. BAILEY.

Eccles.

QUERIES.

[3,294.] CHURCH WALKS.—A portion of Hanging Ditch is sometimes called Church Walks, particularly on post letters. When did it first get the name, and which part of the street does it apply to? N.

[3,295.] THE OLD ROAD TO STRETTFORD.—When was the old road to Stretford over the canal bridge at Cornbrook, and through the site of the present Pomona Gardens, diverted by the substitution of the existing Chester Road? J. B.

[3,296.] CATHEDRALS.—To oblige some American friends I wish to ask your architect readers to kindly state which country in Europe is considered to possess the most perfect, elaborate, and finest-conceived Cathedrals and monastic edifices. England, it is universally admitted, is very strong in these ancient monuments, and they are enthusiastically sought after by Americans, partly, perhaps, out of the deeply-rooted interest taken by them in the mother country. I have, however, an impression (I am not an architect though fond of archæology) that, in spite of the majestic and reverence-inspiring dignity of our Cathedrals, the general opinion of those profoundly versed in these matters is that the Continent can show, on the whole, more consummate specimens of this especial architecture than England can.

H. R. FORREST.

Birmingham.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

ROCHDALE, October 6.

Pray allow me to put Captain Aitken right as to my own theory of the Roman Road over Blackstone Edge. In 1879 I wrote: "If wheels are to be skidded in a trough, the stones which compose it must be very massive and very heavy, or they would be torn up and displaced. They must be fitly joined together. They must be made of the hardest obtainable material. Having to be tooled and placed carefully in line, it would facilitate the construction of the road to make the trough the centre, or key, or base of the whole, and from the great size and durable nature of the stones, this method would add to the strength of the entire structure. Another reason for placing the skidding trough in the centre is that the wheels of the waggon could then be braked on either side, while the fact that sometimes the right wheel was skidded and sometimes the left is evident from the way in which the stone is worn."

Again, after considering the position of the wheel ruts, I pointed out that while the waggons in descent would skid in the trough, those that ascended evidently did so in one of three positions, "either in the absolute middle of the road, or in the middle of either of the two side roads."

Lastly, I said, sir, in your columns, in 1880, that "in descending a gradient of one in five it must have been absolutely necessary to scotch a loaded waggon,

but there are no indications that skidding was practised on either roadway, and we are driven to a consideration of the central channel."

I have more to say on this subject another time.

H. C. MARCH.

BRUNSWICK-STREET, OLDHAM.

I visited the Roman Road over Blackstone Edge some years ago and examined the three lines of thick flags which had been laid down to form a road on the Lancashire side of the hill. Whilst the outer lines were worn somewhat hollow, the middle one contained a deep and wide groove, the bottom of which was highest in the middle, thus forming a double furrow. From the groove to the outer line of flags it is about the ordinary width of a conveyance, and as the groove seems to have been the principal subject for controversy, I will venture to give my opinion as to how the same has been worn to its present shape.

Some forty years ago I went into a country smithy, and amongst a job lot of old scrap which had been bought at a sale at a neighbouring hall, I noticed an old chain, made with seven-eighths of an inch square links, bent anglewise of the iron. It was about two feet long with a short hook at one end. Curiosity led me to inquire for what purpose the chain had been used, and why the links were square iron. The master smith, who was a man bordering on eighty years of age, told me that it was a frost chain, an article much used at one time in hilly districts in stony grounds for braking purposes. They hooked them, he said, round the felloe of the wheel in the winter season, when the ground was glazed with frost, and then locked the wheel with a buckling chain attached to the chest of the vehicle to prevent it jumping the frost chain, which would be on the ground in front of the wheel. In that position, when the horses began to descend a steep gradient, the sharp angles of the links would bite through the frost and prove a very efficient brake. Might not such a system of braking have been used in descending Blackstone Edge, not only by the Romans, but at a much later period? Because I am inclined to think that this Roman road was the only one over those moors at no very remote period, and would be used for vehicular traffic betwixt Yorkshire and Lancashire. The form of the centre groove suggests that the frost chain has been used in descending, because some would brake on the near

side wheel, and others on the off side wheel, and the links would bite on the bottom and side of the groove and thus widen out the same and leave a ridge, as it now appears, in the centre. No doubt a furrow was made by the mason when the stones were first laid down, to act as a sort of guiding track to prevent the carriages from sliding sideways and getting overturned in slippery weather. An ordinary slipper or trash would be of no use whatever in braking at such times, because it would glide over the glazed surface like a sleigh and endanger the lives of both horses and drivers. But with a frost chain the descent could be made with safety.

I do not wish to dispute other people's opinion on this question, but I do think that such a system of braking as I have described is as likely to have worn out the centre-groove in the ancient road over Blackstone Edge, as the travelling of packhorses or the marching tread of Roman soldiers.

JAMES DRONSFIELD.

TERENURE, DUBLIN.

In perusing the remarks in the *City News* respecting the grooved tracks on this road, I believe the solution of the problem will be found in the fact that it was the old pack-horse road, which will at once show how they were made, as the horses always travelled in single file. Hence its peculiar form, which I well recollect when rambling over the district with my old friends Tom Stansfield and John Nowell, of Todmorden, years ago.

W. MARSHALL.

DIDSBURY.

Having lately had the pleasure of inspecting thoroughly the Roman road over Blackstone Edge, I at the time was quite of opinion that the channelled stones forming the centre of a part of the road were originally laid by the road makers channelled similar to their present condition, and that the purpose of the channel was twofold—viz., to carry off water from the road, and also for one wheel of a cart to travel in—say skidded—or with a slipper, so-called, to act as a brake in going down hill with a load. Since seeing this road I was struck with the appearance of some stones forming the sides of a portion of two old narrow streets in Halifax—Russell-street and Gaol Lane—which are rather steep. The stones mentioned are large blocks, about the same size as those forming the channel at Blackstone Edge, and by the action and wear of cart wheels skidded, present in many places a very similar trough or channel to those on the Roman road, and, the stones being about the same size, the resemblance is very striking to anyone having seen both. I think it quite confirms the skidding theory,

although I should, if I had not seen the roads in Halifax doubted much that skidding would have worn away such deep grooves in hard stone. I hope that steps will be taken at once to preserve such an unique example of Roman roads as the one near Littleborough. I suppose it has not its equal in Great Britain.

FREDERICK MOORHOUSE.

LADY MACBETH.—Mr. Labouchere, referring to Sara Bernhardt's intended appearance as Lady Macbeth, says he has never understood why Macbeth's wife should be portrayed as an elderly tragedy queen. Big, heavy women are generally wanting in determination and energy. As a rule a massive, dignified-looking female is incapable of doing anything beyond looking massive and dignified. Lady Macbeth was probably a young-looking, slim, lithe, sharp-featured woman, with blonde hair and green eyes.

SIZE OF THE BRAIN IN EMINENT MEN.—The brain of Turgeneff is said to have weighed 2,012 grammes. The average weight of the human brain is 1,390 grammes. Turgeneff's is said to be the heaviest which has yet been weighed. Cuvier's brain is said to have weighed 1,800 grammes. There are many cases in which an extraordinary intellect has accompanied a heavy brain; but men whose mental superiority is undoubted had often brains under the average weight. The cast of Raphael's skull shows that it was smaller than the average British skull; Cardinal Mezzofanti's head was but of the average size; Charles Dickens's head was rather smaller than the average; Lord Byron's head was remarkably small; Charles Lamb's did not come up to the average weight; and it is well known that at the death of Gambetta his brain was found to be smaller than that of an ordinary Parisian ouvrier. On the other hand, Thackeray's brain was unusually large. It is almost certain that size of brain is no test whatever of intellectual power.

THE WELSH AND THEIR LANGUAGE.—Mr. Pryce, school inspector for Carmarthenshire and Breconshire, reports that while in many districts of the latter county Welsh is disappearing as a spoken language, the Welsh-speaking people in Carmarthenshire have not diminished in number during the last fifteen years. The knowledge of the English language, however, among the same people has during this period rapidly advanced. "The first step in the improvement of a school (says this authority) is to teach English. A Welshman myself, conversant with the Welsh language, and appreciating its force and character and its linguistic value, it would, at the same time, be idle for me to deny that in an educational point of view it is a hindrance to progress. The limited area in which it is spoken, the absence of text-books, the deficiency of technical terms, and the consequent inadequacy of the language as a medium to convey instruction in modern subjects, unless debased and loaded with foreign words and expressions, make it necessary to adopt the English language in our schools. The Welsh farmer is keenly alive to the advantage of a good knowledge of English. His own ignorance makes him the more anxious that his child should be able to converse in English, and to read and understand English newspapers and books."

Saturday, November 17, 1883.

NOTES.

THE REBELS OF '45 IN CHESHIRE: ISAAC PODMOOR'S EXPERIENCES.

[3,297.] Gatley is not even yet a very bustling place, though since the road was made from Withington to Northen it is not nearly so secluded as it was; neither have people so much time anywhere to tell tales of what they heard or saw in former times now that the daily newspaper has to be read and current events seem to be so much multiplied. Traditional history has been for the most part committed to writing, though some little may be yet left unrecorded. Not long ago there was some discussion in the *City News* about the rebel army in 1745. It arose from this that a Gatley man told me a while ago some circumstances that he had heard related by his grandfather, who in turn had them from those who were living at Gatley when they happened, or in some cases from the people themselves who had witnessed them.

He said that the rebels having forded the river at different places were spread about in that part of the country foraging. Some who crossed at Stretford went to Altrincham and intended visiting Dunham Hall, but were dissuaded by an old woman in a red cloak who sat by the roadside weeping, and when they asked the cause of her tears, she replied that it grieved her to see such a set of fine young fellows going to certain death, for the Park was full of soldiers. The appearance of a red coat on horseback who was acting the part of a scout settled the matter, and the marauders retired. This old woman strikes one as having a sort of family likeness to her who warned John Balfour in *Old Mortality*, though the latter gave warning of real danger, and this old person of Dunham only simulated.

These rebels or others of them who crossed the river at Northen passed through Gatley, Hale, Ringway, Styal, Handforth, and Cheadle-Hulme on to Macclesfield. Dispersed up and down in this disorderly fashion they were exposed to some peril, and the people at Ringway took one of them and flayed him, and tanned his hide which is said to have been very thick. One, John Breckell, at the same place tried hard to shoot a Scotchman, and would have done too, but his gun missed fire three times. After all the rebels do not appear to have done much harm. They wanted provisions, of course, but besides food their

chief requisition was for shoes. Old George Hardy, of Gatley, went out in his clogs, and when he was told to "pull off his brogues" the Scotchman on examination refused them, saying he would not wear brogues that were made of a tree; so old George showed wisdom in leaving his shoes at home. They lost a four-foot two-handed sword at Styal, which my informant believes is there still, and in Cheadle Hulme they lost a bayonet which he saw about five years ago. It was picked up by a man called Williamson, the grandfather of the man who had it, and it had been kept in a clock case as a curiosity ever since. In consequence of death the household goods were distributed, and my informant does not know what became of the clock or the bayonet.

While these unwelcome visitors were about, the horses were hidden for safety, chiefly in Cotterill Clough and Gatley Carra. The invaders were soon gone, but were shortly back again with the King's troops after them, under the command of the King's son, the Duke of Cumberland. And here begins the history of one who has left the local reputation of being a great fighting man. This hero of the plains, like him of the Grampian Hills, had no doubt heard of battles, and longed to follow to the field some warlike lord; and this is how it happened that he did so. But first it should be recorded that his name was not Norval, nor anything half so romantic. He was called Isaac Podmoor, and he lived at Sharston. His father was a farmer at Hollin Edge farm, and Isaac went out to see the soldiers pass at the three lane ends, where the road turns off to Ringway. He was twenty-four years old, six feet four inches high, and big in proportion. The Duke, chancing to notice him, ordered him into the ranks, and he went nothing loath. They could not find any clothes large enough for him, so they had to make some on purpose. He fought at Culloden, and afterwards went with the army to the Highlands, where he married a Highland farmer's daughter. After that he fought in Flanders, and was with the army altogether over twenty years.

In Scotland he escaped serious wounds, but in an engagement in Flanders he was wounded by a bullet in the leg, and they tried to persuade him to go to the surgeon, but he said he had no time, and, binding up his wound with a handkerchief, he went on fighting. On another occasion he was all but killed by a bullet from the pistol of a French horse soldier, who, while retreating, turned round and fired at him

close at hand. The bullet struck his cheek bone, crashed through the roof of his mouth, and made its way out at the back of his neck. He might well lie for dead on the field for over twenty-four hours, but he was found to be alive, and was cured by a French doctor, who was a prisoner, though, as my informant states, he had always afterwards a slight impediment in his speech.

It may be presumed that his military career terminated about this time. He retired with a pension, and, with some money that he had saved, he settled on a farm at Styal, and went on farming until he was eighty-six, when he sold up, or was sold up, and retired from business. Even at that age the fire of his youth would burst forth occasionally. It is related that some dispute having arisen with the incoming tenant about dividing the corn either according to custom or agreement, and a hubbub being raised, Isaac went into the house and, bringing out his "old brown bees," he remarked that he had shot scores of better men than they, and he would shoot them too unless they behaved themselves, and, as he meant it, his argument proved conclusive.

He died close on ninety years of age.

R. H. ALCOCK.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

JOHN MAYNARD, PILOT.

(Nos. 3,260 and 3,266.)

[3,299.] Some weeks ago one of your correspondents asked where he should find the above-named poem, and who was the author. I have just found it in a charming book published by Cassell and Company, entitled *Sunshine and Shade*. The author is C. E. Bourne. A fine full-page illustration of the burning steamer accompanies the paper.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD "SALFORD."

(Note No. 3,293, November 10.)

[3,298.] Alderman BAILEY's derivation of this word does not "seem probable" to the undersigned. A few miles from Stafford the London and North-Western Railway crosses a stream bearing the classical name of "The Sow." Close to the line stands a small hamlet, "Shallowford," and I fancy our adjacent borough once bore this name. Stretford is manifestly Strait (narrow) ford; Bradford, Broad-ford.

XIPHILAS.

QUERIES.

[3,300.] BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. — Who is the author of the following motto, inscribed on a statue to Benjamin Franklin: — "Eripuit coelo fulmen sceptrumque tyrannis." W. DEE.

THE ROMAN ROAD OVER BLACKSTONE EDGE.

FAIRFIELD, November 14.

It is natural to suppose that the long pending discussion on the Roman road will, like all things human, have an end, and after so long an existence this may be "a consummation devoutly to be wished." To the old Romans who eighteen centuries ago devised, constructed, and used this piece of engineering skill, with its mystic footpath or central groove, it would be very interesting, if not amusing, to revisit the scenes of their ancient exploits, and listen to the strange and varied theories which this nineteenth century has devised to unravel a mystery which to them was a plain and simple operation. Whatever may be the final result, it will be gratifying to look back upon the controversy as one in which kindred spirits have been drawn into closer friendship by the cheerful pursuit of a common object, full of scientific interest, and inducing healthy exertion to its explorers.

The few public speakers or writers upon this subject are much indebted to the great body of readers and sound thinkers who, though less prominent, are equally interested in the study of the problem, and not less desirous for its complete solution. Whether the central masonic "groove," "trough," or "track" has originally served the purpose of a "water conduit," a "road drain," a "horse path," a "skidding trough," or a "guide track," was known to our Roman conquerors and colonizers, and will some day be discovered by modern research. At present we are testing the various theories adduced, and upon their respective merits they will be accepted or rejected.

The three first ideas have been more or less disposed of by the champion of the skidding theory, and some writers of high repute as antiquarians, as well as men of science and literature, deem the two latter theories as the only feasible ideas yet brought under notice and worthy of serious attention. Standing alone and unchallenged the skidding theory had many friends and influential support; but in the presence of another theory, the "Guide Track," which has also many friends, it

will have to defend its position against facts and reasons that tend to its destruction and the building up of its strong and hopeful rival.

To those writers on this interesting topic who have ventured to submit their ideas to public notice and criticism, it is extremely gratifying to learn how deep and extensive is the interest evoked by the discussion of this subject which, by the courtesy of the press, has been diffused over a wide area of scientific ground as well as spread among general readers. An editorial summary embracing the main features of the controversy, now spreading over many years, would be a most seasonable contribution to science, and would be much valued.

W. SHARRATT.

PARCEL OR PARCELS POST.—In connection with a recent query and answer as to the right form of the new department of the Post Office, it is worth recording that Mr. Fawcett, in a speech at Shoreditch last week, used the singular number and spoke of the Parcel Post. The other form, Parcels Post, is inelegant and has no foundation either in precedence or common sense. The multiplied sibilant is most objectionable. Some definite settlement of the question is desirable.

PROGRESS OF EDINBURGH.—At a meeting of the Town Council of Edinburgh on Tuesday, Lord Provost Harrison stated that the rental of the city had increased since the passing of the Valuation Act in 1854, from £761,863 to £1,893,696. Such an increase, he thought, was very much like that of a new city in Australia or the United States, and he believed was scarcely matched in the kingdom. During the past twenty years the valuation alone had more than doubled.

DISCOVERY OF AN OLD SAXON CHURCH.—The remains of a Saxon church have been discovered at Peterborough. As the workmen engaged in the restoration of the cathedral were digging for the purpose of laying foundations for the new piers, they came against masonry which clearly indicates the presence of some building in former times. It is supposed to be a portion of a Saxon monastery, which was built on that spot in the year 655, and destroyed by fire in 870. The stones still bear the traces of having been exposed to fire. A Saxon sarcophagus was also exposed.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE STAGE.—Some years ago a merchant of Philadelphia began to form a collection of original prints to illustrate Dr. Doran's *Annals of the Stage*. His collection, together with a similar one formed by another amateur, ultimately passed into the hands of a certain Mr. E. R. Cope, of Germantown, who has himself devoted much time and money to the pursuit of ransacking the printshops of England and the Continent, as well as of America. At last the collection is completed to the satisfaction of its owner. It now numbers 2,300 examples, and has been bound up in thirteen handsome folio volumes. As an illustration of its exhaustive character, it may be mentioned that the Kemble and Siddons family furnish subjects for 134 pictures, while of David Garrick and his wife there are no fewer than fifty-one portraits.

Saturday, November 24, 1883.

NOTES.

THE OVER MACE.

[3,901.] It has often been said that the mace which is an object of so much notice when borne before the Mayor of Over on state occasions is at least 700 years old. I heard this stated on Tuesday last at Over before the Mayor's banquet took place. In handling the mace during the evening I noticed that the arms engraved on it were those of the Stuarts, as monarchs of these realms, with an escutcheon of pretence on the shield—that of King William the Third's paternal shield of Nassau, viz., az, billettée, a lion rampant, or. I therefore am of opinion that the mace is not more than 200 years old, if quite so much.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

Over, Cheshire.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

JOHN MAYNARD, PILOT.

(Nos. 3,260, 3,266, and 3,298.)

[3,902.] In connection with the inquiries concerning the authorship of a poem that has for its subject a pilot saving a burning ship and losing his own life in the act, it may be interesting to note that there are several poems on this subject. Besides the one by an English writer mentioned in last week's Notes and Queries, there are two by American writers. One of these is by Mark Twain and the other by Colonel John Hay. In the American poems the pilot is not such an exemplary character as in the English one. Colonel Hay ends his poem thus:—

He weren't no saint—but at jedgment
I'd run my chance with Jim,
'Longside of some pious gentlemen .
That wouldn't shook hands with him.
He'd seen his duty, a dead-sure thing—
And went for it thar and then ;
And Christ ain't a going to be too hard
On a man that died for men.

M. K.

ORDSALL CAVE.

(Note No. 3,298.)

[3,903.] I well remember when a youth (about 1835) being in this Cave. It was a cutting with two sides facing, one south the other west, on the edge of bluff banks of red sandstone in a beech wood at the bottom of Ordsall Lane, where it turned abruptly to the Irwell (bounded on the south-west by the enclosed

grounds of Ordsall Hall), whence before the river was made navigable was Wodens' ford, over to Hulme. The sides of the Cave were sheer upright, about seven feet high, with very faint tracings of letters and a cross. There are strong probabilities that Cluniac monks were introduced to the vicinity of Salford by their great benefactor William Peverill in the time of the Conqueror, and that they had constructed the rude cell or oratory at Ordsall, formed from a Cave which had previously been dedicated to Odin. The monks are supposed to have guided wayfarers across the hazardous ford when the river was dangerously swollen, an office of monastic hospitality and mercy which met with many parallels throughout Christendom.

JAMES BURY.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

(Query No. 3,300, November 17.)

[3,904.] "Eripuit coelo fulmen, sceptrumque tyrannia." (He snatched the lightning from heaven, and the sceptre from tyrants.) This line, an adaptation of one [from Manilius, was inscribed by the French Minister, Turgot, on a medal struck in honour of Benjamin Franklin. The allusion is to his discovery that lightning is produced by electricity, and to the support which he gave to his country in the assertion of its independence of the British crown. See Riley's Dictionary of Latin and Greek Quotations.

M. G.

* * *

This line was placed on a medal struck in honour of Benjamin Franklin, when Ambassador from the United States of America to France. The allusion is to his discovery that the electrical fire and that of lightning are absolutely the same, and to the eminent share which he had in establishing the independence of America, his native country. Turgot is said to have inscribed this motto on the sculptor Houdin's bust of Franklin. The motto is supposed by some to be in imitation of the *Anti-Lucretius* of Cardinal Polignac I. v. 96: "Eripuitque Jovi fulmen Phœboque sagittas;" by others to be taken from the *Astronomicon* of Manilius, 3 v. 104: "Eripuitque Jovi fulmen, viresque tonandi."

H. K.

* * *

The epigram quoted by your correspondent was penned, in its present form, I believe, by the eminent French statesman, Turgot; but the verse is regarded as having been suggested by the following passage in the *Anti-Lucretius* of Cardinal Polignac, viz.:—"Eripuit fulmenque Jovi, Phœboque sagittas." Turgot

also celebrated the great American in French verse, expressing the same idea, as follows:—

Le voilà ce mortel dont l'heureuse industrie
Sut enchaîner la Foudre et lui donner des lois,
Dont la sagesse active et l'éloquente voix
D'un pouvoir oppresseur affranchit sa Patrie,
Qui désarma les Dieux, qui reprîmé les Rois.

A. S.

Kersal.

QUERIES.

[3,305.] "THE MAN OF PLEASURE."—Who was the author of this comedy, which was produced at the Manchester Theatre in 1769, under Whitley's management?

G. C. S.

[3,306.] PLAYS AT THE PARISH CHURCH.—I am informed that in Queen Mary's days, 1553-8, plays were performed in the Parish Church of Manchester. Can any correspondent verify this statement, with particulars?

G. C. S.

[3,307.] POET'S DESCRIPTION OF LUTHER.—In connection with the recent Luther commemoration, can any of your readers inform me where I shall find the well-known line:—"The monk that shook the world?"

W. T. B.

[3,308.] USE OF "DUSK" FOR "DARKEN."—The Laureate uses the word "dusk" in the sense of "darken" in the line:—

Little breezes dusk and shiver.

Can any of your readers say what other writer has used the word in this sense? By the way, Mr. Keeley Halswelle, in giving a name to his Academy picture this year, uses the line, but unfortunately tries to improve on the poet by writing:—

Little breezes *dash* and shiver.

M. K.

LITERARY CLUB.

JAMES LEACH, THE LANCASHIRE COMPOSER.

The weekly meeting of the Manchester Literary Club was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, on Monday evening.

Mr. THOMAS NEWBIGGING read a paper on James Leach, the Lancashire Composer, whose contributions to Psalmody, the essayist said, entitled his name and memory to be cherished in the county as one of its most gifted sons. James Leach was born in the year 1762, at Wardle, a village near to and almost a suburb of, Rochdale. He came of humble parents, and his education, so far as schooling is concerned, was of the scantiest possible kind. He did not even enjoy the advantage of attending a Sunday school in his younger years, though, later on, as such schools began to be generally established throughout the country, he took an active personal interest in them,

his hymn tunes and anthems were eagerly adopted and sung therein, and these materially assisted in making Sunday schools the success which they eventually became. He was early apprenticed to the trade of handloom weaving, which he continued to follow till well into the years of manhood. It is a pleasant circumstance to note that he was the maternal uncle of the mother of our Lancashire poet, Edwin Waugh, who, in his *Roads out of Manchester*, tells us that often when a lad he used to listen to his mother singing Leach's plaintive tunes when there was nobody in the house but his little sister and himself. The poet, indeed, in his published works often speaks of Leach in kindly and endearing words. In the sketches above referred to he says further: "My mother's relatives, both on the father's and the mother's side, were all ardent lovers of music. . . . They were all proud of their relative, James Leach, the composer of the *Psalmody*, and I can well remember that in those days of my early youth, when I accompanied my mother to her native village, and we went from one house to another amongst her kinsfolk, I have often heard them sing and play James Leach's touching melodies with tears in their eyes. I remember some of these tunes still, and I think I shall never forget them." Whether Leach ever received special instruction in the musical art is not known, but it is unlikely that he did, as he himself states, that when he began to write his tunes he was ignorant of the rules of composition. Be that as it may, however, he was naturally gifted as a musician, and he was able to cultivate his powers in this direction at the frequent meetings for musical practice of his kinsmen and neighbours. In those days it was the custom of the people living in the villages and scattered over the hillsides and valleys of Lancashire, to meet in each other's houses by turns to practise sacred and secular music. Leach early attained proficiency as an instrumentalist, and was appointed one of the performers in the "King's Band." As a vocalist he rose to distinction both as a teacher and choir-leader, and as a counter-tenor singer he was prominent in the great musical festivals held in Westminster Abbey and elsewhere. But it is as a composer of psalm and hymn tunes that he best deserves to be remembered. Some of his choicest compositions were produced when he was a young man between the ages of twenty-two and twenty-seven. Of these I may specially mention *Mount Pleasant*, *Oldham*, *Bethel*, *New Trumpet*, *Melody*, *Pisgah*, *Sabbath*, and *Shepherd's Lover*. In all the range of devotional tunes in existence, I venture to say, there are few finer than those I have named; a bright cluster, indeed, with an originality and character all their own; full of the richest melody, and capable of elevating the soul to the highest devotional worship. Pleasant are the memories associated

with these strains of James Leach; warm sunny recollections of days gone by come unbidden as we croon them over. So full are they of that indefinable power to cheer and compose the mind it can only be a source of unalloyed regret that in these times of turmoil and struggle they should have been pushed aside for less enduring and more commonplace themes. Leach's first volume of sacred music was published in 1789. He was then twenty-seven years of age. A second volume was issued about 1797. Shortly after the issue of his first book he relinquished his trade of hand-loom weaving, and devoted himself to the profession of music as a teacher, singer, and composer in the town of Rochdale. About the year 1795 or 1796 he removed with his family to Salford as affording a more extended sphere for his talents, and here he remained down to the time of his death. This melancholy event occurred on Thursday evening, February 8th, 1798, he being only thirty-six years of age, in the full plenitude of his powers, and rising rapidly into fame. The Leeds coach in which he was a passenger from Rochdale on his way to Manchester was overturned when about half-way down Entwistle Brow, near to the village of Blackley, and Leach was thrown from it and killed. The following notice of the accident appears in the *Manchester Mercury* of Tuesday, February 13th, 1798: "On Thursday evening Mr. James Leach, of Salford, musician, was killed by the overturning of a chaise caused by a wheel coming suddenly off. He has left a large family to lament his loss." After his death an edition of the volume containing the second set of tunes was published, in which an advertisement appears stating that the sudden death of Mr. Leach had reduced his family to very necessitous circumstances, announcing the names of a committee of gentlemen who had undertaken the publication of his manuscript tunes and anthems for the benefit of his widow and children, and soliciting subscribers thereto. Leach was buried in the graveyard of Union-street Wesleyan Chapel, Rochdale, and the stone which marks the spot is surmounted by his well-known short-metre tune *Egypt*, in G minor. His set pieces and anthems were collected together and issued in twelve parts, making a volume of 256 pages, oblong folio. Various editions of his works were afterwards printed in this country and in the United States; and in most of the collections of sacred music issued within the present century the hymn tunes of Leach hold a prominent place. Many of them have attained the widest and most deserved popularity, and to this day are prized by all who can appreciate and enjoy genuine melody. Strange to say, however, some of the very finest of his tunes are not included in other collections, and are therefore almost unknown to the present generation. The Americans

have, perhaps, shown more appreciation of Leach than his own countrymen. In an interesting letter in the *Musical Times* of 1st April, 1878, the writer, who signs himself G. A. C., states that "In the 'Bridgewater Collection of Sacred Music,' first edition, printed in Boston in 1802, are *Hampton, Wilderness, Bridgewater, Fountain, Hamilton, Morniny Flower*, and *Sepulchre*; and in a book called *David Companion, or the Methodist Standard*, the compilation of which was ordered by the General Conference at Baltimore, May 26th, 1808, and which was registered as copyright July 28th, 1810, are forty-eight pieces of Music by James Leach. From that time forward Leach's tunes were included in most of the American collections. After a reference to Leach's Anthems, of which he composed thirty-three, Mr. Newbigging gave a critical estimate of the composer's work, and said that Leach in his brief life time accomplished a work that deserves a monument, and recommended the re-publication of his *Psalmody*.

Several of Leach's tunes were played by Mr. Thomas Rawson, and the words to them were sung by Mr. John Butterworth, whose father was one of Leach's pupils.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.—Professor Huxley's election as president of the Royal Society was confirmed at the annual meeting held yesterday week. In his address Professor Huxley reviewed the society's work during the past year, and made touching references to the eminent men who have passed away. Referring to his election as president he said: "To a man like myself, who neither possesses, nor seeks, any other distinction than that of having done his best to advance knowledge and to uphold the dignity and the authority of science against all comers, the presidency of this society is the highest dignity which he can attain, whatever else may befall him. But, as men of science, you know better than I can tell you, that there are things of more worth than distinction. I am within measurable distance of the end of my career; and I have long looked forward to the time when I should be able to escape from the distractions and perturbations of the multitudinous affairs in which I have been so long entangled, to that student life from which the Fates have driven me, but to which I trust they may, for a little space, permit me to return. So that I am sure you will neither misunderstand me, nor dislike my directness of speech, when I say that, if it please you to believe that the interests of science, and of the Royal Society will be advanced by maintaining me in the very distinguished position which I at present occupy, I will do my best to justify your confidence; but if, as may well be, you think that some other Fellow of the Society will serve these interests better, I shall, with a light heart, transfer to him the honourable burden, which I have already borne long enough to know its weight."

Saturday, December 1, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE REBELS OF '45 IN CHESHIRE.

(Note No. 3,297, November 17.)

[3,309.] In continuation of Mr. R. H. ALCOCK's note concerning the Rebels of '45 in Cheshire, I may mention that I have a broad-sword which tradition says was taken from a Highlander when the insurgents passed through Mobberley, and which has been kept as a curiosity in our family for many years. How it originally came into our possession I do not know. I have heard my father say that it used to have a basket hilt; and I can remember when the handle was wrapped round with wicker-work. At the end of the handle there is a knob of iron which is tastefully inlaid or embossed with a white metal, silver I think, forming an elegant floral device. It must originally have been a handsome sword. The blade is hacked and dented as if it had done good service in battle.

ROBERT HOLLAND.

Frodsham.

PLAYS IN THE PARISH CHURCH.

(Query No. 3,306, November 24.)

[3,310.] Previous to the time of the Reformation, and in the wardenship of George Collyer, A.D. 1535 to 1557, the pageant of Robin Hood was actually exhibited within the sacred walls of the Collegiate Church. It was a favourite interlude which had generally been got up by the priests. A pageant was prepared; the bold outlaw presided as Lord of the May, attended by Maid Marian, Queen or Lady of the May, and by archers in green, denominated Robin Hood's men. The expense of the splendid dresses, minstrels, morris-dancers, and the subsequent feast of bowers which was held in the churchyard, was usually defrayed by the churchwardens. Their indemnification and profit was derived from a collection made from house to house in the parish. This was named the gathering for Robin Hood. See Hibbert Ware's *History of the Collegiate Church*.

JAMES BURY.

ORDSALL CAVE.

(Nos. 3,293 and 3,303.)

[3,311.] I passed some years of my life in the neighbourhood of the above cave, and was pretty familiar with its surroundings and its appearance inside. It lay a little to the right of Ordsall Lane, about 200 yards from where the lane turned towards the river, in what appeared to have been a small

quarry for the red sandstone which lay between the surface soil in that district. The entrance faced towards the Irwell, and had the remains of wooden door jambs. The top or ceiling appeared to me to have been formed by nature, as it was very uneven, and sloped in very irregular lines towards the sides. About twelve feet in, on the right-hand side, was a cut passage some two feet or so above the level of the cell floor, and this ended with two steps cut in the solid rock, appearing to me to have been intended for an entrance from the top of the bank, but left unfinished. The bank was covered with tall beech trees, from the cave to the turning of the lane, where it finished with an almost perpendicular bank of red sandstone. It appears to me to have been a natural hole, formed in getting stone for some building purpose, and utilized by the workmen for their tools. I should have been glad to have thought I had been in a cell that had once been tenanted by such good and holy men as Mr. JAMES BURY suggests. As to Runic inscriptions, I saw none, but on the surrounding rocks saw plenty of tracings of Salford lads' clogs, and their initials cut in hearts and other forms. I think some ancient writers have tried to make a barnacle goose of this.

FRANCIS WALKER.

Duchy-street, Seedley.

QUERY.

[3,312.] EDWARD QUILLINAN.—I received, a little while back, from an Edinburgh friend, among other literary matters, a small brochure of forty-five pages, entitled:—"The Sacrifice of Isabel: a Poem. By Edward Quillinan, Esq. London, Longman and Co., 1816." Was this the Edward Quillinan who married Wordsworth's daughter, Dora?

A. S.

Kersal.

A POPULAR VOTE ON ENGLISH MEN OF LETTERS.

The *Journal of Education* offered in November a prize of two guineas for the best list of the ten greatest living English men of letters, with the best work of each. The number of competitors or voters was 534. Of these 45 gave lists of authors only, and twelve were disallowed as imperfect or evidently comic. The number of authors mentioned was 192. Of these 69 names occurred only once, and 47 ten times and upwards. It will be seen from the list given below that Mr. Tennyson heads the list, and is

closely followed by Messrs. Ruskin, Arnold, and Browning. Mr. Froude heads the historians, Archdeacon Farrar the theologians. The novelists only win the nineteenth place, Mr. Black and Mr. Short-house being bracketed, and Mr. Blackmore only two votes behind. It is a remarkable fact that of the first ten names seven are Oxford men, Mr. Tennyson being the only representative of Cambridge. Of course, in a matter like this, everything depends upon the constituency, and that of the *Journal of Education* will probably be mainly a constituency of school teachers. A similar vote by the readers of, say, the *Spectator*, or the *Times*, or the *Manchester City News* might furnish an interesting field of comparison as to the tastes of a wider circle of the reading public.

Name of Author.	No. of times given.	Chief works.
Tennyson	501	In Memoriam (257). Idylls of the King (159).
Ruskin	462	Modern Painters (238). Stones of Venice (125).
Matthew Arnold.....	453	Literature and Dogma (137). Essays in Criticism (89). Poems (50).
Browning	448	The Ring and the Book (253). Paracelsus (58). Men and Women (37).
Froude	391	History of England.
Swinburne	262	Atalanta in Calydon.
E. A. Freeman.....	241	History of the Norman Conquest.
Herbert Spencer.....	235	Study of Sociology.
Cardinal Newman ...	192	Apologia pro Vita Sua.
John Morley.....	187	Life of Cobden.
William Morris	147	The Earthly Paradise.
Huxley	115	Lay Sermons.
W. E. Gladstone.....	107	Homer and the Homeric Age.
Lecky	95	History of Rationalism in Europe
Farrar	78	Life of Christ.
Professor Seeley	62	Ecce Homo.
Leslie Stephen.....	55	English Thought in the 18th Century.
Lewis Morris	53	Epic of Hades.
William Black.....	50	The Princess of Thule.
Shorthouse	50	John Inglesant.
Blackmore	48	Lorna Doone.
Max Müller	44	Science of Language.
Justin M'Carthy.....	43	History of Our Own Times.
George M'Donald ...	41	Robert Falconer.
Professor Stubbs.....	33	Constitutional History.
Charles Reade.....	31	"'Tis never too late to mend."
Tyndall	28	On Light.
Kinglake	27	Invasion of the Crimea.
Samuel Smiles.....	22	Self-Help
J. A. Symonds.....	21	History of the Renaissance.
Sir Henry Taylor ...	20	Philip van Artevelde.
Henry Morley	20	English Literature.
G. O. Trevelyan	19	Life of Macaulay.
George Meredith.....	19	Beauchamp's Career.

Name of Author.	No. of times given.	Chief works.
Archbishop Trench...	18	Notes on the Parables.
Professor B. Jowett...	18	Notes on Plato.
Sir Henry Maine.....	17	Ancient Law.
Wilkie Collins	16	The Woman in White.
Bishop Lightfoot ...	15	Commentaries.
B. F. Westcott	14	Gospel of the Resurrection.
James Martineau ...	13	Endeavours after a Christian Life.
Walter Besant.....	11	All Sorts and Conditions of Men.
Edward Dowden.....	11	Shakspeare: his mind and art.
W. H. Mallock.....	11	The New Republic.
Thomas Hardy	10	The Return of the Native.
Sir John Lubbock ...	10	Pre-Historic Times.
G. A. Sala	10	The Baddington Peerage.

A PERPETUAL CLOCK.—A clock was set going at Brussels some months ago which continued to go for nine months, and had not run down when last heard of. An up-draught is obtained in a shaft by exposing it to the sun; this draught turns a fan, which winds up the weight of the clock until it reaches the top. It then works a brake which stops the fan until the weight has gone down a little, when the fan is free to recommence.

RIVAL PICTURE BUYERS: LORD OVERSTONE AND MR. GLADSTONE.—As a Trustee of the National Gallery Lord Overstone was a pretty constant visitor to Christie's room, keeping his eye upon any good pictures that might turn up as worthy of notice. On one occasion he had noticed a good picture, and he took Sir Charles Eastlake to see it for his approval. Sir Charles liked it, and on the day of sale met Lord Overstone at the room, determined to buy it. They took their seat near the auctioneer; biddings began, and went on with some one opponent, who kept advancing steadily against them, though he could not be seen, as he was standing in the crowd at the back of the audience. Somewhat annoyed at the opposition, Sir C. Eastlake tried to see who it was that was capping his bid each time, but, failing this, he got a friend to go round and find out. Presently he came back and told them that the person was a stranger to him, and he thought he was a dealer, as he was rather shabbily dressed. As the biddings had now reached the highest point Sir Charles thought proper to go to, he and Lord Overstone decided to give up to their opponent, and they missed their bargain. As they were leaving the room together, who should come up to them but Mr. Gladstone, who, not knowing they were his opponents, at once began expatiating on the merits of his purchase, much to their mutual astonishment. What the picture was we are unable to say, but it might possibly have been the fine Bonifazio of the Beckford collection, which was long an ornament in Mr. Gladstone's collection, and which was eventually sold with the rest of the Prime Minister's works of art at Christie's in 1875, when Lord Overstone bought it.—*Times*.

Saturday, December 8, 1883.

NOTES.

TALKING SMITH.

[3,313.] In the *Derbyshire Times* of Saturday, December first, I met with the following note:—

Fifty years ago there were two brothers named Smith, both tall elderly men, who tried to renew their youth by visiting Buxton every summer, where their libations were not limited to the celebrated waters. They were eccentric, but genial and very kindly men, and were well known, individually, as the "Walking Smith" and the "Talking Smith;" for when they took their walks abroad for the benefit of the air, Walking Smith would be fifty or sixty yards ahead of Talking Smith, who always muttered and chatted to himself as he trudged doggedly in the rear. Their favourite walk was the pleasantly sunny road to Burbage where they always refreshed themselves for the return journey at the Red Lion—the terrific name of one of the most genial, clean, and cosy of humble country inns—where, by special order during their stay in Buxton, there was always a barrel of the best ale of the stillage for them and their friends exclusively. Talking Smith was once asked why he chatted so much to himself, when he replied:—"Because I like to talk to a sensible man, and I like to hear a sensible man talk!" Nothing gave these genial kind-hearted brother Smiths more pleasure than taking a few friends from their hotel in Buxton and regaling them with a stoup of their stingo from their special barrel at the Red Lion of Burbage; where on one of the small window panes of the taproom of this quaint little inn, may now be read, scratched with a Buxton diamond by one of the brother Smiths, the following:—

"Good old Ale
Tells a Tale
Over the Flail
And Over the Pail."

Whether this poetic effort was an inspiration from the Walking or the Talking Smith, tradition sayeth not; but it may be seen any day by all who require a pleasant halt on returning from Axe Edge or the Cat and Fiddle.

Of these two brothers, the one designated Walking Smith was a life-friend of my grandfather James Varley, bleacher, of Bolton and Pendleton, of whose discovery of Chloride of Lime I wrote to you recently. They together went on a pedestrian tour over the Continent, at a time when there was considerable danger in foreign travel. I have a memorial of this tour in a passport granted to my grandfather at Messina, which is dated "20 Marzo, 1810," and in which he is described as of forty-one years. At one time I had another memorial in the shape of a small stoppered bottle, on which oriental characters were

engraved and gilt; this contained *genuine* Otto of Roses, the perfume and essential oil of which exuded in spite of stopper, bladder, and sealing-wax besides. It was known to be valuable, and one day the bottle evaporated as well as the essence. This bottle was a remembrancer of a somewhat risky adventure. My grandfather and Walking Smith (known also as Gentleman Smith) penetrated into a Turkish harem disguised as women. That they ever returned says a great deal for the ignorance of the natives owing to the want of intercourse between different nations, seeing that Walking Smith was tall and James Varley was by no means short. I as a child thought him tall. At all events, if they went as samples of English women, we must have been regarded as a race of Amazons. On their return through France they were detained. This was not my grandfather's first visit to France, for he was present at the storming of the Bastile.

Perhaps some of your readers may know something more of these brothers, Talking Smith and Walking Smith; the latter of whom may have obtained his soubriquet in consequence of his ramble over Europe with his friend James Varley. They were away for years. I fancy Walking Smith was alive in 1833.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ORDSALL CAVE.

(Nos. 3,293, 3,303, and 3,311.)

[3,314.] Mr. FRANCIS WALKER gives a very correct description of the situation and outward appearance of the above cave. When a little boy I often ventured near the opening in company with other youngsters, but none of us at that time dared venture in, as awesome tales were told about it, and boys of older growth averred they had taken candles and gone in a long way when the candles were invariably blown out. The common belief at that time was that there was a passage right under the river with egress at Hulme Hall on the opposite bank. When older I explored the cave (which was then said to have been partially filled up). At the end of the passage mentioned by Mr. WALKER I have a strong recollection of seeing a half-obliterated cross and some letters just above the two steps mentioned. I scarcely see why anyone should attempt to cut a passage out through the top so long as there was the natural entrance so much easier of access, and I am inclined to think with

Mr. BURY that the cave had at some time been inhabited by a religious man or men. Above the cave was a rude seat which went by the name of the Giant's Seat. Doubtless the rude carvings in the cave would soon be obliterated as population increased round the clough, and any relics of a past time quickly disappear. It is a pity that portion of the clough, with its beautiful tall beeches and romantic dells, could not have been retained instead of the present Ordsall Park. I think Alderman W. H. BAILEY's suggestion as to the origin of the word Salford is the best I have yet heard.

JOHN JOHNSON.

Trefriw.

QUERIES.

[3,315.] SWINDELLS, PUBLISHER. — Information is requested respecting a publishing firm of the name of Swindells, which appears to have flourished during the latter part of the eighteenth and the beginning of the present century.

J. A.

[3,316.] ENTWISTLE BROW.—Where is Entwistle Brow at Blackley, where the accident happened to James Leach, the Lancashire composer, the subject of a paper read at the Manchester Literary Club, reported in the *City News* of November 24?

GULIELMUS.

[3,317.] CHRIST CHURCH, HULME, AND MR. GASKELL.—Who was the founder of Christ Church (Gaskell's) in Queen-street, Hulme, and in what year? To what denomination does it belong, and when did the Rev. J. Gaskell die? Other particulars respecting the church and Mr. Gaskell would oblige.

J. F. H.

[3,318.] MERLIN'S PROPHECY IN KING LEAR.—What is the explanation of the following passage spoken by the Fool in *King Lear*. Act iii., scene 2:—

Then shall this realm of Albion
Come to great confusion;
Then comes the time, who lives to see't,
That going shall be used with feet.

E. T. J. HEWLETT.

THE COST OF A WAR.—The total ascertained expenditure of France upon the war on which she entered with a light heart in August, 1870, is now declared to be £341,440,000. As the war began in August and ended in January, this makes the cost to France of her march to Berlin almost exactly two millions a day, without counting the permanent loss of two of her wealthiest provinces.

A PILGRIMAGE TO HAWORTH.

WYCOLLAR HALL AND THE HOME OF THE BRONTES.

The "season of mists and yellow fruitfulness," as the young English poet who lies amid the ruins of Imperial Rome aptly terms Autumn, had replaced the glare and heat of summer when my companion and I started on our nine-mile walk to Haworth. We met by appointment at Colne. This odd-looking town is situated on a mound between the hills of Boulsworth and Pendle, and is supposed to owe its foundation and name to a colony of marauding Romans. Doubtless the early history of this, as of many such places, is so misty that it is, as Macaulay would say, "lost in the twilight of fable." The old parish church seemed a venerable fane, founded, we are told by Mr. J. Carr, the painstaking Annalist of Colne, about the period of the Conqueror's arrival on our shores. The only other objects of interest pointed out to us were Caster Cliff, an eminence overlooking the town, formerly a Roman encampment, and the Grammar School, an unornamental building adjoining the church in which Archbishop Tillotson received his early education.

Brightly old Sol streamed down on us as, leaving Colne in the rear, we descended a steep slope to the griht and found ourselves in front of the ruins of Wycollar Hall. The bare walls of this old building have a weird aspect which tallies well with the tradition of its being haunted.

All houses wherein men have lived and died
Are haunted houses,

says Longfellow; but this spot has special claims to wraithly favours as the following, which I venture to transcribe from the pages of the *Annals of Colne*, will prove:—

Old houses have often some tradition associated with them, and so it is not surprising to find mentioned in Harland and Wilkinson's *Traditions of Lancashire*, that once every year a spectre horseman visits Wycollar Hall. He is attired in the costume of the early Stuart period, and the trappings of his horse are of a most uncouth description. On the evening of his visit the weather is always wild and tempestuous. There is no moon to light the lonely roads, and the inhabitants do not venture out of their cottages. When the wind howls the loudest the horseman can be heard dashing up the road at full speed: after crossing the narrow bridge, he suddenly stops at the door of the Hall, and, dismounting, makes his way up the broad oak stairs (of which no traces are left) into one of the rooms of the house. Dreadful screams, as from a woman, are shortly heard, which soon subside into groans. The horseman then makes his re-appearance at the door—at once mounts his steed—

and gallops off the road he came. His body can be seen through by those who may chance to be present; his horse appears to be wild with rage, and its nostrils stream with fire. The tradition is that one of the Cunliffes murdered his wife in that room, and that the spectre horseman is the ghost of the murderer, who is doomed to pay an annual visit to the house of his victim. It further goes on to say, that years before it actually happened, the murdered lady had predicted the extinction of her cruel husband's race—a race so ancient that its very name is the subject of a tradition, for one of the Saxon Kings, being anxious, it is said, to reward a brave follower, said to him, as he pointed to certain fields, "I *con* thee these lands to *live*," whereupon, he and his descendants ever afterwards bore the name of *Conlive* or *Cunliffe*. Strange to say, the lady's prediction has been literally fulfilled, for the last of the Cunliffes died, a lonely old man, at Wycollar, in the year 1818, and the ancestral home soon became a ruin.

One other story, closely connected with the last, still remains to be told respecting the old Hall:—Some seventy years ago, a young girl and her lover were seated in one of its ancient rooms, whispering in each other's ears the old, old story of love and devotion, when suddenly they heard the sound of light footsteps on the oak stairs, and the rustling of a woman's dress. Startled, they held their breath; nearer and nearer came the footsteps; the door opened noiselessly, and in glided a lady, clothed from head to foot in black silk. She uttered not a word, but casting one long anxious look around the room, and, seeing only the frightened lovers, withdrew as quietly as she entered. Years rolled on, that young girl grew to womanhood, and lived to a good old age, but to her dying day she never forgot the startling apparition of the Lady in Black, who is said by some to be the murdered wife of the Spectre Horseman, and is known about Wycollar as "Old Bess." Need I add, that, as with the growth of education, ghosts have disappeared from other places, so apparently has Old Bess from Wycollar, and if she comes at all, she comes only when all is hushed and still, and darkness covers the once beautiful, but now deserted home of the Cunliffes.

Crossing the bridge referred to above (a huge time-worn stone, evidently of great antiquity, thrown across a gurgling, limpid rivulet) we cast a hasty glance at the ruin, remarking what subject-matter such a place and history would supply Scott with were he living, and hurried on our pilgrimage. On and on we trudged over hill and dale, till time and good walking carried us over the border-line between Lancashire and Yorkshire, and brought us eventually in view of our goal. And this is Haworth, I thought, a village so insignificant and yet so famous! Instantly the imaginative powers were at work: time was reversed four decades, and I beheld the Brontës strolling together, or singly, on those drear, purple moors. Emily and Charlotte and Anne were there, talking over the plots of those weird stories that have made their names household words. Small wonder, I mused, that such oddly yet cleverly conceived books as theirs should have had their birth-

place in this bleak moorland. Mrs. Gaskell, in her *Life of Charlotte*, thus faithfully describes the approach to Haworth and its surroundings: "Right before the traveller . . . rises Haworth village; he can see it for two miles before he arrives, for it is situated on the side of a pretty steep hill, with a background of dun and purple moors rising and sweeping away yet higher than the church, which is built at the very summit of the long narrow street. All round the horizon there is this same line of sinuous, wave-like hills; the scoops into which they fall only revealing other hills beyond, of similar colour and shape, crowned with wild, bleak moors—grand from the ideas of solitude and loneliness which they suggest, or oppressive from the feeling which they give of being pent-up by some monotonous and illimitable barrier, according to the mood of mind in which the spectator may be."

Passing through a narrow, irregular street, we lost no time in lessening the distance between us and the two great centres of attraction—the Church and Vicarage. We were unable unfortunately to obtain admission to the house, a simple oblong building of grey stone, in which the marvellous family of the Brontës lived and died, but we easily gained an entrance into the church. Many of my readers will remember the hurricane of abuse and misunderstanding which assailed the actual incumbent of Haworth when he first conceived and eventually began the building of the present church on the site of the old one. I am glad to be able to chronicle the fact that he *waded* (pardon the irresistible pun, ye anti-punsters!) through that sea of reproach successfully. No one more than myself deprecates the unnecessary removal of venerable landmarks of history, but when their presence becomes a source of danger (as was the case here) their removal is of imperative necessity. The tower, I believe, with slight alterations, remains the same as in the time of the Brontës; the nave, chancel, and aisles are of recent construction. I must say I have seen few churches, either in these islands or on the continent, arranged more beautifully internally than the structure that graces that steep Yorkshire hill. Sauntering slowly up the middle aisle towards the chancel arch, my eye caught a mural tablet to the right of the communion table, on which the following was inscribed:—

Here lie the remains of Maria Brontë, wife of the Rev. P. Brontë, A.B., Minister of Haworth. Her soul departed to the Saviour Sept. 15th, 1821, in the 39th year of her age.

"Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Matt. xxiv. 44.

Also here lie the remains of Maria Brontë, daughter of the aforesaid. She died on the 6th of May, 1825, in the 12th year of her age.

And of Elizabeth Brontë, her sister, who died June 15th, 1825, in the 11th year of her age.

"Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven." Matt. xviii. 3.

Here also lie the remains of Patrick Branwell Brontë, who died Sept. 24th, 1848, aged 30 years; and of Emily Jane Brontë, who died Dec. 19th, 1848, aged 29 years; son and daughter of the Rev. P. Brontë, Incumbent.

This stone is also dedicated to the memory of Anne Brontë, youngest daughter of the Rev. P. Brontë, A.B. She died, aged 27 years, May 28th, 1849, and was buried at the Old Church, Scarborough.

On a separate tablet I noticed the words:—

Adjoining lie the remains of

CHARLOTTE,

Wife of the

Rev. Arthur Bell Nicholls, A.B.,

And daughter of the Rev. P. Brontë, A.B., Incumbent.

She died March 31st, 1855, in the 39th year of her age.

For a few moments I stood gazing at this last inscription, rooted to the spot by the reflection that beneath me lay the fingers that wrote *Jane Eyre*, one of the most powerful novels, to my mind, ever penned by a female hand. Most fully do I agree with those words of Mr. Trollope recently come to light in his Autobiography:—"I venture to predict that *Jane Eyre* will be read among English novels when many whose names are now better known shall have been forgotten." Literateurs may dispute among themselves as to which of the two sisters, Charlotte or Emily, is the cleverer; public opinion, I fancy, has long since awarded the palm to "Currer Bell." Aroused from my reverie by my friend, I bade a reluctant adieu to this Brontëan shrine and stepped out into the densely crowded churchyard, where for generations back the good people of Haworth, to use Wordsworth's words—

Gave their bones in trust

To this loved cemetery, here to lodge.

Our curiosity had been satisfied, and the clamourings of a hitherto unappeased appetite reminding us that nature required something more after a brisk walk of nine miles than retrospections upon the Brontës, how-

ever interesting, we betook ourselves to the Black Bull, near the church gates. There the old-fashioned arm-chair was shown to us in which the unfortunate Branwell sat so often and partook so often of King Alcohol's deadly draughts. Poor Branwell! he deserved a better fate than death at the hands of such a tyrant.

An hour later and we turned our backs upon Haworth. It was evening when we left; a clear, peaceful, autumn evening. The great Day-star was slowly dropping behind the hills, whose brown summits were all aglow with red-golden light. "Varietas delectat," quoth the Roman proverb; so we returned to Colne through Laneshaw Bridge, past Emmott Hall, leaving Wycollar to the left. Midway between Laneshaw Bridge and Colne stands Christ Church, with a prettily wooded churchyard. By the time we arrived there the moon was hastening along her solitary track towards her zenith, casting over all things "a silvery silken veil of light." Finding the gate ajar, and tempted by the wierdness of the scene, we stepped into that picturesque City of the Dead. Glancing cursorily at the divers shaped gravestones, a large square tomb caught our attention. The pale moonbeams falling upon it were sufficiently bright to enable us to decipher the following Latin inscription:—

Sunt sua præmia laudi.

Sepultus hic jacet

Reverendus DAVID PRYCE, A.B., T.C.D.

Ecclesiæ Trawdensis Pastor primus.

Desiderio omnium maximo.

Prid. non. Januarii,

A.D. MDCCCXL.

Ætatis suæ.

Vigesimo nono

Mortem obiit.

Virtutis pietatisque hoc monumentum

Familiarum e donis ad id collatis

Hiberniis Hibernico

ponendum curavit.

This discovery was a fitting close to our pilgrimage to the scene of Charlotte Brontë's life and labours, for beneath this massive tomb reposed David Pryce, the young Irish curate who had proposed to her, and of whom she speaks in the following excerpt from a letter to her sister Emily, given by Mrs. Gaskell in her *Life*:—

August 4th, 1839.

I have an odd circumstance to relate to you: prepare for a hearty laugh! The other day, Mr. —, a vicar, came to spend the day with us, bringing with him his own curate. The latter gentleman, by name Mr. B—,* is a young Irish clergyman, fresh from Dublin University.

It was the first time we had any of us seen him; but, however, after the manner of his countrymen, he soon made himself at home. His character quickly appeared in his conversation; witty, lively, ardent, clever too; but deficient in the dignity and discretion of an Englishman. At home, you know I talk with ease, and am never shy—never weighed down and oppressed by that miserable *mauvaise honte* which torments and constrains me elsewhere. So I conversed with this Irishman, and laughed at his jests; and though I saw faults in his character, excused them because of the amusement his originality afforded. I cooled a little indeed, and drew in towards the latter part of the evening, because he began to season his conversation with something of Hibernian flattery, which I did not quite relish. However, they went away, and no more was thought about them. A few days later, I got a letter, the direction of which puzzled me, it being in a hand I was not accustomed to see. Evidently it was not from you nor Mary, my only correspondents. Having opened it and read it, it proved to be a declaration of attachment and proposal of matrimony, expressed in the ardent language of the sapient young Irishman! I hope you are laughing heartily. This is not like one of my adventures, is it? It more nearly resembles Martha's. I am certainly doomed to be an old maid. Never mind, I made up my mind to that fate ever since I was twelve years old. "Well!" thought I, "I have heard of love at first sight, but this beats all." I leave you to guess what my answer would be, convinced that you will not do me the injustice of guessing wrong.

The "sapient young Irishman" survived but by a few months his rejection by Charlotte, dying at Trawden (a township opposite Christ Church) in the January following that event. The Vicar referred to in the letter was the Rev. W. Hodgson, incumbent of Christ Church from 1838 until his death in 1874. He lies buried a few yards distant from Mr. Pryce. Copying the above inscription took but a few moments, after which we resumed our homeward journey, reaching "Old Colne upon the hill" as the Parish Church clock chimed the hour of ten.

J. B. S.

* The name on the tombstone is Pryce, not Bryce. Possibly Mrs. Gaskell mistook the B for P, an error which Mr. Carr has copied.

RECORD SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Record Society, established for the publication of original documents relating to Lancashire and Cheshire, was held on Thursday in the fine old audit room of Chetham's Hospital. Chancellor CHRISTIE, who has been elected president in the place of the late Mr. Crossley, occupied the chair.

The report stated that the publication for the year 1882-3 was the second volume of Mr. Selby's Lancashire and Cheshire Records, preserved in the Public Record Office,

London. The publications of the society are now brought up to date, eight volumes having been issued in the five years of the society's existence. Volume IX., the Preston Guild Rolls, edited by Mr. W. A. Abram, of Blackburn, will form the first volume for the year 1883-4. It is now nearly ready for binding, and will be issued to the members shortly. This volume contains verbatim transcripts of the Guild Rolls of Preston, beginning with the earliest now preserved, that of 1837, and coming down to 1682. The rolls subsequent to this period may form a future volume of the society's series. Volume X. will contain a series of Miscellaneous Records, including lists of Lancashire clergy in certain years between 1619 and 1639, subsidy rolls for Salford and Leyland Hundreds, a list of Lancashire freeholders in 1600, and other matters. Volume XI., the first for the year 1884-5, will be the Index to the North Lancashire Wills, proved at Richmond, co. York, announced in previous reports. It will contain the list of these wills down to the year 1690, and will be edited by Lieutenant-Colonel Fishwick, F.S.A. Mr. J. A. C. Vincent has in hand an elaborate Report on the Lancashire Subsidy Rolls, which it is expected will shortly be ready for the press. It is hoped that the first volume of the Marriage Licences at Chester, 1606 to 1615, may shortly be taken in hand. It has also been suggested to the Council that a volume containing a full account of the various MSS. relating to Lancashire and Cheshire contained in the various public libraries in the two counties, with an analysis of the contents of each volume, would be a very suitable publication for the society to undertake. This would include and be an index to the forty-five folio volumes of the Raines MSS., now in the Chetham Library, the Piccople, Palmer, Barritt, and other local MSS. there, as well as those in the free libraries of Manchester, Liverpool, Warrington, Preston, and Wigan, many of which are full of very valuable local information, but owing to the want of indexes are but little known, and not nearly so frequently consulted as they might be. The treasurer's balance sheet showed an income of £528, and an outlay of £292, leaving in hand the sum of £236.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report. Having thanked the members of the Council for electing him to the office of president, he remarked that nothing, perhaps, was more remarkable in connection with our history and antiquities than the great additional interest which in the last twenty or thirty years had arisen in those matters. Not only had numerous societies of that kind originated, but many books had been issued; and the newspapers, which, a few years ago, would have thought that some of those subjects were altogether beyond their province,

now often contained what were, to him, the most interesting features of the paper—references to local history and antiquities. The very last thing he read before coming to that meeting was an interesting article upon the family of the Mosleys—one of a series which were appearing in one of the daily papers, and the production of one of their most valued colleagues. He also read with interest the *City News* as each Saturday came round, but it was not so much the news of the city of 1883 which attracted him as of the city of a century ago, which was chronicled there from time to time. Mr. Selby's new volumes, issued by the Society during the year, opened the way to an enormous mass of information which without them would be practically useless. The series of miscellaneous records about to be placed in the printer's hands would be of great interest. The lists of Lancashire clergy, for instance, were made by Dr. John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester, in his private ledger now in the possession of his descendant, the Earl of Bradford. This bishop, being responsible for the loans and other moneys obtained by James I. and Charles I. from the clergy, made lists in his private ledger of the clergy and of the amount they were liable to pay. One of the lists showed how ship money was levied upon the clergy. These lists were further interesting as giving a more accurate list of the clergy than was to be found elsewhere.

Mr. JAMES CROSTON, in seconding the motion, said that for a young association the Record Society had done great and good work, and the last two volumes presented to the members equalled if they did not surpass those which had preceded them.

Mr. J. H. NODAL called attention to the discovery, chronicled in one of the volumes issued by the Society during the past year, namely, of the missing volume of the Coucher Book, or Register of Furness Abbey, A.D. 1421. This valuable document, it appeared, was discovered at the late sale of the Hamilton Library. The whole of the manuscripts in that library were bought by the German Government, and the Furness Abbey Coucher Book, which could be of little interest to the German people, was now lodged in the library at Berlin. He thought the Record Society, either alone or in conjunction with the Chetham Society, should approach the German Government or the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, with a view to the recovery of the volume, so that it might be placed among the records of the county now in the national collection. With regard to the proposed index to manuscripts in the various public libraries in the two counties, he thought it would be possible to enlist in the work the co-operation of the public librarians of Lancashire and Cheshire, and thereby facilitate the early issue of such an extremely valuable work.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he was extremely glad to hear what had been said as to this general index of the Lancashire and Cheshire manuscripts in the public libraries, because it was entirely his own idea, and he should like to see that volume issued speedily as it would be a most valuable one. He was sure those present at this meeting, librarians and others, would give their aid in the matter. He supposed at some future time there would be a librarian of the Chetham Library—(laughter and hear, hear)—when they might hope that he also would give his assistance. As to the Chartulary of Furness, the question had often been before the Chetham Society, but to obtain a transcript of the work was a serious matter. He would take care that the subject was again brought before the council of that society.

The motion was then passed.

Lieutenant-Colonel FISHWICK proposed that the Hon. and Rev. Canon Bridgeman (rector of Wigan) and Vice-chancellor Bristowe should be elected vice-presidents of the society, and the Rev. J. H. Stanning a member of the council.

Alderman JOSEPH THOMPSON, in seconding the motion, said the name of "Bristowe" naturally called to his mind the subject of manorial rights—(laughter)—and though it might not be strictly in accordance with the work of the society he was sure the members would be glad to hear that under the able editorship of Mr. Earwaker, the Manchester Court Leet records would be published very shortly.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the resolution, which was carried, said he almost thought that Alderman Thompson was going to propose that they should secure the late judgment of Vice-Chancellor Bristowe, in which the Corporation of Manchester was concerned, as one of the valuable records of the Society. (Laughter.)

Mr. H. H. HOWORTH moved that the number of the members of the society should be limited to 350. He said he should like to see a start made in the work of getting a complete collection of the old court rolls. With regard to the Furness Abbey Coucher Book, he had spoken long ago to his friend, Mr. Bond, of the British Museum, as to the desirability of securing it, but as soon as the German Government learnt that any portion of the Hamilton Library manuscripts were desired, they put upon them an extortionate and almost prohibitive price. If they could not secure the Coucher Book itself, they could perhaps procure a transcript for a moderate sum, for in Germany, as in England, there were some poor scholars who would be glad of the job. (Laughter.)

The resolution was carried.

Saturday, December 15, 1883.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CHRIST CHURCH, HULME, AND JAMES GASKILL.

(Query No. 3,317, December 8.)

[3,319.] Christ Church, Hulme, was built in 1809 by members of the Bible Christian Church, then in King-street, Salford, of which the Rev. Wm. Cowherd was minister. Mr. Cowherd was a follower of Swedenborg, but differed from other Swedenborgians in that he abstained from the flesh of animals as food, and also from intoxicating liquors, and these restrictions were among the conditions of church membership. The Rev. J. Scholefield officiated as minister of the church in Hulme for some years; but differences arose among the members which led to the withdrawal of Mr. Scholefield, and to his building in 1823 Christ Church, or the Round Chapel, in Every-street, Ancoats, where he conducted services for many years.

James Gaskill was born May, 1800, and died August, 1870. About the time Christ Church, Hulme, was built his father was a spinner and he a scavenger at Pooley's factory in Hulme. In 1814 the father was a member of the church, and from that time the whole family became what we now call vegetarians and teetotallers, and James devoted all his spare time to learning. The church became the property of the Gaskills, and after the departure of Mr. Scholefield the Rev. James Gaskill conducted the services for about twenty years, when they were discontinued. He also carried on a most successful day school for more than thirty years, when he gave it up to his assistant.

In 1819 the followers of Henry Hunt, the Radicals of those days, wore green ribbons in their hats and bonnets. This badge, as well as the Radicals, was looked upon with such detestation by the party then in power that they resolved on the first Sunday after Peterloo massacre to deny all wearers of the Radical badge admission to the Church Sunday schools. Christ Church, Hulme, was at once opened as a Sunday school for such people in particular, and from the liberality of the teaching soon became an important institution. For more than fifty years Mr. Gaskill was a teacher and conductor thereof, and at his death left the church a sum of money in the hands of trustees that the good work might still go on. He spent his life in promoting the education of the humbler classes, and helping on every movement

having for its object the improvement and elevation of the labouring portion of the people.

I showed in the *City News* of Nov. 2nd, 1878, that the first scientific institution established in England for the working classes was formed here in 1819, by James Gaskill and others. W. J. B.

* * *

The ruddy face and cheery voice of James Gaskill were well known in Hulme fifteen or twenty years ago. The pleasure as well as the chief business of his life was teaching, and there must be many in this city who first received from him the rudiments of education. He was one of the founders of the Vegetarian Society, and a staunch supporter of the temperance movement. For a short period he served as a Poor-law Guardian, and for many years was a director of the Manchester Mechanics' Institute. He had a taste for science, and frequently lectured on pneumatics and electricity, as well as on temperance, vegetarianism, and kindred topics; but in his later years he became much quieter, having the business of a cotton mill on hand. He died at the age of seventy, on the 17th of August, 1870, and his funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. James Clark, of the Bible Christian Church, of which the deceased had been a member for over fifty years. He made many charitable testamentary bequests, amongst which were:—To Christ Church Institute and Sunday Schools, £2,300, besides the buildings in trust for temperance, educational, and religious uses on the same plan as during his lifetime; to the United Kingdom Alliance, £1,000; the Vegetarian Society, £300; Manchester and Salford Temperance Society, £100; Peace Society, £100; Bible Christian Church, £100; Hulme Free Library, £100. Mr. N. Corlett, his friend and colleague in working the Christ Church Institute, if still alive could give many interesting particulars respecting him. If I mistake not, at the time of his death, notices appeared in the local press, and I have a distinct recollection of seeing a lengthy notice of his labours in the *Alliance News*. L.

SWINDELLS, PUBLISHER.

(Query, No. 3,315, December 8.)

[3,320.] John Swindells was a printer and publisher of Hanging Bridge and Old Churchyard, Manchester. He retired from business late in the year 1846. He was a general printer, but his chief work at the time I was in his employ was songs in sheets, and Cock Robin and Jenny Wren in the halfpenny

and penny books so common at that time. Henry Swindells was brother to John, and in a fair way of business as a general printer at 22, Deansgate, Manchester, about fifty yards higher up than where the Grosvenor Hotel now stands. Henry Swindells was in business some time after 1847, and I believe there are two daughters surviving in or near Manchester.

D. H.

* * *

Mr. George Swindells, a native of Disley, in Cheshire, was the founder of one of the earliest publishing firms of this city. He died at the age of thirty-six, on the first of March, 1796, and the business was continued by Mr. A. Swindells and his eldest son John. The latter died March, 1853, at the age of sixty-seven. Their place of business was in Hanging Bridge, from which they issued a large number of penny histories and ballads, which were extensively circulated throughout Lancashire and Yorkshire by the pedlars of the day. The collection of ballads must have been most extensive, and I am afraid there are but few in existence. The penny histories which were printed upon coarse paper, contained sixteen pages, and were illustrated by rude woodcuts. The following, I believe, is a complete list of them:—

A new and well-experienced Card Fortune Book, delivered to the world from the Astrologer's Office, in Greenwich Park, for the Benefit of Young Men and Blooming Maids. A Strange and Wonderful Relation of the Old Woman who was Drowned at Ratcliffe Highway a fortnight ago: to which is added the Old Woman's Dream a Little after her Death; two parts. A Dialogue between Honest John and Loving Kate, with their Contrivance for Marriage and Way to get a Livelihood: two parts. Dreams and Moles, with their Significance and Interpretation. Ducks and Green Peas; or the Newcastle Rider. Mother Bunch's Closet Newly Broken Open, containing Rare Secrets of Art and Nature, tried and experienced by learned philosophers, and Recommended to all Ingenious Young Men and Maids, Teaching Them in a Natural Way How to Get Good Wives and Husbands: two parts. New Joe Miller's Jests, in which are introduced, amongst other oddities, the copy of a Surgeon's Bill and Rules of the Henpeck'd Club. Bluebeard, or Female Curiosity: an entertaining fairy tale. The History of the Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green and his daughter Bessy. The Art of Courtship and School of Love. The Famous and Memorable History of Chevy Chase, to which is added the cele-

brated old ballad The Sleeping Beauty of the Wood: a fairy tale. The History of the King and the Cobbler: two parts. The History of Robin Hood and of all the notable exploits performed by him and his Merry Men. Peter Puzzlepate's New Riddle Book, being a Whetstone for Dull Wits. The History of Doctor Faustus. The History of Tom Hickathrift. Simple Simon's Misfortunes and his wife Magery's Cruelty, which began the very next morning after their marriage. Cinderella, or the History of the Little Glass Slipper. The Merry Piper, or the Friar and his Boy: two parts. The History of Valentine and Orson. The Renowned History and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe. The Shepherds of Salisbury Plain. The Life and Death of Jane Shore, concubine to King Edward the Fourth. The Life and Death of Fair Rosamond, concubine to King Henry the Second, showing how she was poisoned by Queen Eleanor. The Wonderful History of Jack the Giant Killer: two parts. The True History of Crazy Jane: an affecting tale. Tummus and Meary, being a view of the Lancashire dialect, containing the adventures and misfortunes of a Lancashire clown, by Tim Bobbin: two parts. The Tragical Story of the Children in the Wood, in prose and verse. The Life and Prophecies of Robert Nixon, of Bridge House, near the Forest of Delamere, in Cheshire. The Youth's Warning Piece; or the Tragical History of George Barnwell. The Life and Adventures of Tom Thumb, the mighty. The Whole History of the Seven Champions of Christendom. The Yorkshire Beauty; or Distressed Lady made Happy.

Only two appear to have any local interest, viz., Nixon's Prophecies and Tummus and Meary.

L.

ENTWISTLE BROW.

(Query No. 3,316, December 8.)

[3,321.] "Entwisle Broo" is about three miles from Manchester, near Blackley, a shady steep on the highway from Manchester to Middleton. The best entrance to Boggart Ho' Clough is by a gateway leading from the southern edge of that steep called "Entwisle Broo," as Mr. Waugh spelt or named it in his *Lancashire Sketches*.

FREDERICK LAWRENCE TAVARE.

Higher Crumpsall.

* * *

Edwin Waugh, in his sketch of Boggart Ho' Clough, says, "There is a quiet little clough about three miles from Manchester, near the old village of

Blackley. The best entrance to it is by a gateway leading from the southern edge of a shady steep called Entwisle Broo, on the highway from Manchester to Middleton." "Entwisle Broo" is that part of the Manchester and Rochdale highway which forms the wooded declivity between Barnes Green and Blackley village. It is now more commonly called Valentine Brow. Why its name has been changed I have not been able to ascertain.

JOHN HOLT.

ORDSALL CAVE.

(Nos. 3,293 and others.)

[3,322.] Many thanks to your correspondents about Ordsall Cave. I should further like to ask if any drawings of it exist besides the woodcut in Dr. Hibbert Ware's book. He alludes to a badly-drawn sketch of Barritt's, but I cannot find one in his MSS in the Chetham Library. Also what are the earliest records of this Cave? Dr. Hibbert Ware connects it with the monks of Kersall and Ranulph Gernons. Has he any authority to go upon?

ANTIQUARY.

* * *

The opinion of Mr. FRANCIS WALKER may probably change a little, and that of Mr. JOHN JOHNSON be strengthened, on their being informed, or perhaps reminded, that Ranulph Gernons, shortly after the Conquest, when he took possession of the town of Salford and lands adjoining, found certain Cluniac monks of Lenton Priory, in Nottinghamshire, settled in Salford, and he endowed a cell or hermitage at Kersall (Broughton) for their reception, which he attached to that Priory. This fact is not at variance with the probability that they might have previously possessed the cell of Woden at Ordsall. The fords at Kersall and Ordsall were on a cross road from one locality to the other, to avoid the long road through Manchester to Chester.

JAMES BURY.

QUERIES.

[3,323.] "THE DEVIL'S WALK."—Where can I find a poem entitled "The Devil's Walk?"

A. HAMMOND.

[3,324.] PEPPER-STREET.—This name appears in many parts of the country. There is a Pepper-street at Preston, and there is a Pepper-street at Wilmslow, and also at other places. At Chester there is or was a Pepper Gate. Do any of your readers know the derivation and history of this name?

ALFREDUS.

[3,325.] "SCANDAL."—Can any reader oblige me with a copy of an amusing rhyme called "Scandal?" The first two lines are:—

We took our work and went, you see,
To take a friendly cup of tea.

I have never seen it in print, but an old lady, who is now dead, used to repeat it from memory.

FRANZISKA.

[3,326.] "WANTED."—In a poem, the title of which, I think, is "Wanted," the following verse occurs. I shall be glad if any of your readers can furnish a copy, or say where it can be found:—

Wanted, a hand to hold my own,
As down life's vale I glide;
Wanted, an arm to lean upon,
For ever by my side.

G. R. T.

[3,327.] MARLER.—In a little MS. book of arms, by Thomas Barrit, in the Chetham Library, is a sketch of the following arms:—Argent between three figures like a Z—sable—a chevron sable, on which a crescent or; crest, a dove with olive branch. Beneath is written "Marler from a gravestone in the Old Church of Manchester and in a painted window in Old Millgate, Manchester." Is anything known of this family? I can find no trace of the arms or gravestone in the church. They are probably covered with tiles; but does the glass still exist in Old Millgate or anywhere?

ANTIQUARY.

The death-roll of the Royal Society for the last year is a striking testimony to the longevity of scientific men. Out of the twenty-one members who have passed away the youngest was fifty-five, and the oldest, Sir Edward Sabine, the father of the Royal Society, was in his ninety-sixth year. There was another nonagenarian, but the octogenarians on the whole had it. There were no fewer than nine of them. The father of the Society is now Sir John Davis.

THE IRISH IN ENGLAND.—At the last Census the natives of Ireland who were present in England and Wales numbered 562,374, being in proportion of 21.65 to 1,000 of the entire population. The number is not an increasing quantity, for in 1861 it was 601,634, and at each Census since it has fallen gradually. These figures show that relatively to the whole population of the country the Irish element is not formidable, but its unequal division over the country concentrates its strength in certain districts. In the agricultural counties the number of Irish is insignificant, but in the manufacturing and mining counties and boroughs they form a large proportion of the population. Thus, in Liverpool they are reckoned at 12.8 per cent, in Birkenhead 8.8, in St. Helens 8.5, in Manchester 7.5, in Salford 7.4, in Lancashire 6.1, in Cumberland 5.6 per cent, and so on. The descendants of these emigrants must be added in order to gain a true estimate of the Irish element in England.

Saturday, December 22, 1883.

NOTES.

UNINTELLIGIBLE OCCUPATIONS.

[3,328] The Census Commissioners, in their recently issued report on the Census of 1881, cite a hundred names of occupations of the people which are stated to be in common use, and yet are such that in all probability an ordinary educated man would know at most but one or two and often would not know even a single one. Sometimes, when he might fancy that the term gave some clue he would find on inquiry that the supposed clue was completely misleading. As specimens we may note the following:—All-rounder, barker, blabber, black picker, bomb setter, branner, budget trimmer, bull dog burner, buttoner up, can breaker, cheeker, crutter, dasher, doctor maker, doler, duler, egger, faster, flat keeper, fluker, idle back maker, impression maker, keel bulley, lurer, maiden-maker, off-bearer, oliver man, orange raiser, ponty sticker, ransacker, sand badger, spragger, sprigger, toother, trowler, walk flatter, westernman, wheel glitter, and whim driver.

THE COUNTRYMAN'S PHARMACOPŒIA.

[3,329.] Few remedies from the animal kingdom are now found in the British Pharmacopœia compared to what we find in the old Dispensatories. Insects formerly held a conspicuous place amongst the drugs and medicaments seen on the shelves of the druggist. I can remember a few curiosities in this way in the shop where I served my apprenticeship. Some readers will recollect a case which occurred not long ago in Bucks, and which formed the subject of a leading article in many of the daily and weekly newspapers illustrating the well-known advice given still by country people "to take a hair of the dog which bit you as a sure preventative against hydrophobia." The child's parents, acting under the advice of a village sage or wisewoman, gave her a slice of the dog's liver nicely grilled before the fire, a meal which they were assured would act as a certain antidote to any bad effects resulting from the bite! It failed in this case, and the death of the poor child brought to light a curious instance of an old and absurd superstition yet lurking amongst the rural classes in the so-called enlightened nineteenth century.

What is the insect called by old writers Buprestis? I ask the question because many villagers believe in

a somewhat similar superstition. For example, it is described as an insect resembling the Scarabæus, having long legs and the habit of concealing itself amongst the grass in meadows so that it was liable to be swallowed by cattle when feeding, in which case it caused such a degree of inflammation that death often ensued. It is alluded to in a paraphrase of Nicander:—

When cows or calves are sick, or bellies swell.

They've eat Buprestis, keepers know full well.

Many farmers believe it causes cows to cast their calves. Linnæus applied the name to a family of wood-feeders or brilliant beetles allied to Elateridæ, familiarly known as Skipjacks. These, however, cannot be the Buprestis, which in the larval state feed only on grasses.

The opinion entertained by the eminent M. Latreille seems to be the most probable, that it is the modern genus Meloë, for the general habits of these insects seem to agree with Pliny's description. They may be found in spring, sluggishly crawling about many plants (such as the buttercup) feeding. When handled they discharge from the joints a peculiar yellowish oil, and are hence called Oil Beetles. In this country, as well as in Sweden, they are used as an embrocation in rheumatism. Mouffet says, in his *Theatre of Insects*, that this "oyley fatness also healeth chaps of the hands, as we have heard of the countrymen about Heidelberg, who have more than once commended its wonderful vertues to us." He also recommends it to be made up as follows for dropsy:—"Take of beetles called Meloë, ten drams, radish seed one ounce; make a liquor of it. The dose may be from one ounce to three ounces, as necessity may require." Dr. Leach thus writes, in illustration of its modern use in cases of hydrophobia: "The late King of Prussia (Frederick the Great) purchased the nostrum from its discoverer for a valuable consideration, as a specific against the bite of a mad dog, and in 1781, it was inserted in the Disp. Boruss, Brand. According to this publication twenty-five of these animals that have been preserved in honey are, with two drachms of powdered black ebony, one drachm of Virginia snake root, one ditto of lead filings, and twenty-five of fungus scrbi, to be reduced to a very fine substance; the whole, with two ounces of theriaca of Venice, to be formed into an electuary." In this case Frederick seems to have been imposed upon, for if the Buprestis is synonymous with the Oil Beetle, the remedy was made known to

the ancients and has passed out of recollection, as well as another recommendation of Pliny—to take maggots from the decaying body of a mad dog in order to cure hydrophobia.

I met with an old man not long ago selling herbs in one of our Lancashire market-places, who had a kind of ointment which he said was Oil of Beetles, “a sartin cure, sir, for old sores and wounds. Why, sir, it cured Major ——’s old mare, after a pikel was run through her belly, and a’ the clivver doctors round about had given her up.” After much questioning I found that he prepared it by boiling the Clock or Watchman Beetle in lard. The habits of these dung-loving beetles are such that children generally give them a wide berth. Still I have seen them suspended round a child’s neck as a charm for whooping-cough.

JAMES F. ROBINSON.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ORDSALL CAVE.

(No. 3,322 and others.)

[3,330.] ANTIQUARY will find the drawing of Ordsall Cave in the Barritt MSS. at the Chetham Library, No. 8,026, being the first drawing in the book. I append his description, which negatives the conclusion of its being a “barnacle goose.” The friable nature of the stone, and the injury caused by the boys of the neighbourhood, account for the difference in its appearance since the time of Barritt’s sketch. His title is “Ordsall Rock, drawn upon the spot August, 1780, by Th. Barritt, antient remains.” Such caves were by no means unique in former times, *ex. gr.*, King Edgar’s Cave at Chester and St. Roberts’s at Knaresborough. The passage spoken of by Mr. JOHN JOHNSON was the causeway, formed of large blocks of stone laid at the bottom of the river, carrying the Roman road from Castlefield to Wigan over the ford. This is Barritt’s description:—

I begin within the neighbourhood of our town of Manchester, near Ordsall Hall, once a seat of the Radcliffes, and in the lane leading to that ancient mansion, upon the right hand almost facing Hulme Hall, is the mouldering remains of a rocky cell, which perhaps may be worth the notice of a curious eye, and more so if we could trace out the perfect knowledge of its primary use. In an old writing in the possession of . . . which describes the boundaries of a certain portion of land thereabouts, it says, “by Worden’s ford and Worden’s den.” Worden or Woden’s ford is a paved causeway across the river Irwel (from Hulme field, where Medlock loses itself in the aforesaid river to the opposite bank), but now lost to every observer since Irwel was made navigable. Worden’s den is the spot I wish to throw some light upon, although obscured by the

darkness perhaps of many ages. Tradition supposes it to have been the den or woody habitation of the priest or priests of Woden, the much esteemed war deity of the ancient idol Saxons, and indeed the situation makes more for than against such an idea, especially when we consider its proximity to the site of another place called Castle field, successively the military habitation of heathen Britains, Romans, and Saxons, which last no doubt but had places of worship denominated from that deity then adored, and held their Gothic idols in equal esteem with the gods of Greece and Rome. This is clear from different places in England being named from their gods, and still more from the present names of each day in the week being called after and dedicated to the worship of their seven deities. What might be the extent or bounds of this supposed idol temple or place of sacrifice we know not, but certainly was once of a much larger extent. What remains of its height is now about six feet, and the length of the whole as now appears about twenty-two yards, at the south-east near the great tree (as may be seen by referring to the drawing) is an hole about three feet wide, much resembling an oven, and near the middle is another excavation not so deep in the rock as the former. At the northern extremity the margin of the rock (just above the surface of the earth) is ornamented with a sort of irregular Gothic tracery, and gently curves into a cavity of above double the size of the former recess. The range of rock is all along shaded with overhanging bushes, and much obscures the rock from the notice of passengers. Admitting the above to have been a devoted place for pagan superstition in Saxon times, it again presents itself under the character of a place dedicated to the retirement and devotion of a professor of Christianity. On one part of the rock much labour hath been bestowed in ornamenting it with rude characters, which has been called Runic, but plainly appear upon close inspection to be the letters of I.H.S., the Latin initials of Ihesus, the saviour of men, in rude Church text. The above letters shew themselves in three or four places, and in one part the letters appear about three foot long apiece. Some few shields, ornamented with crosses, may be seen in different places wrought upon the rock. Near the south end are the faint remains of a shield, with the like of a sword handle near it. At what period of time a change of worship and change of inhabitant happened here I cannot say, but the traceings, and especially the letters, are prior to the Reformation I presume, and if I may offer conjecture should suppose them to be carved about the time of our King Henry the Fifth or Sixth, when almost every place dedicated to religion was ornamented with these symbolic letters of Ihesus Christ, and which might employ the labours of the now long forgotten inhabitant.

There is a portion of ground lying near Worden’s den called Old Field, generally supposed to signify by the word “old,” a place of great age; but in an old writing of several centuries back which I have seen it is there called Hould Field, which plainly imports a place of strength and security, perhaps the allotted ground where prisoners of war were confined, whom the priests had chosen out as victims for sacrifice.

WODEN.

* * *

I remember Ordsall Cave some fifty years or more ago. The entrance was then closed by a door. To my mind the place has been nothing more than a small quarry, excavated for the purpose of getting stone for the foundations of Ordsall Hall. I am led to this conclusion from having observed blocks of the red sandstone there. The stone being on the spot it would be more convenient than carting it all the way from Collyhurst. When the cave was made, or for what purpose, I suppose there is no evidence to show. As to the supposed Runic inscriptions, is it likely they could have withstood the exposure to the elements for so many centuries on the surface of a soft sandstone? I also remember the Beech Wood and the numerous initials and dates incised on the smooth bark of the trees. The young folks of two or three generations ago had as great a penchant for exhibiting their initials and names as those of the present day. In the same way the walls of the quarry or cave may have been illustrated.

J. OWEN.

POET'S DESCRIPTION OF LUTHER.

(Query No. 3,037, November 24.)

[3,331.] W. T. B. asks who was the author of the line describing Luther as "The monk that shook the world." He will find it on page 22 of *Luther; a Poem*, by Robert Montgomery, commonly called Satan Montgomery, who was virtually put out of literary existence by Macaulay's savage but just criticism in the *Edinburgh Review*. The passage runs:—

The solitary monk who shook the world
From pagan slumber.

Montgomery is said to have told a friend that he was willing to rest his hopes of literary immortality upon this line, but unfortunately it is an inaccurate description, for the term "solitary" is wholly inapplicable to him. At the time of his retirement of nine months in Wartburg Castle—the only comparatively solitary or secluded period of his life—Luther had ceased to be a monk.

Eos.

"SCANDAL."

(Query No. 3,325, December 15.)

[3,332.] "Scandal," if that be the correct name of the poem (which I doubt), is by the late Jane Taylor, of Ongar. The works in prose and verse of this estimable lady gave delight and instruction to the youth of a past generation. *Contributions of Q. Q.*, and *Poems for Infant Minds*, are among the number. The particular poem inquired for was, I believe, entitled "Recreation."

XIPHIAS.

This poem by Jane Taylor was published in 1816 in a small volume of her poems, called *Essays in Rhyme*. It was, however, then called "Recreation" not "Scandal." The same poem may also be found in *The Family Pen*, by Isaac Taylor, of Ongar.

R. W.

"THE DEVIL'S WALK."

(Query No. 3,323, December 15.)

[3,333.] "The Devil's Walk" is included in Coleridge's collected poems, two or three stanzas being by Southey. It has also been attributed to Porson, the Greek scholar. An edition with graphic woodcuts may occasionally be seen. About the time when this lampoon first appeared, a sort of *mania diabolica* prevailed, breaking out in Devil's Walks, Devil's Drives, and the like. Charles Lamb had a touch of the malady, as evinced in a thin quarto published by Moxon, *Satan in Search of a Wife*.

XIPHIAS.

* * *

A. HAMMOND will find this under "The Devil's Thoughts," in any collection of the Poems of S. T. Coleridge. This is the first verse:—

From his brimstone bed at break of day
A-walking the Devil is gone,
To visit his snug little farm the Earth,
And see how his stock goes on.

T. H.

* * *

This piece will be found in any edition of Robert Southey's poems. It was, however, the joint production of Southey and his friend Samuel Taylor Coleridge. That the latter had a hand in it has often been disputed, but it is proved by a letter quoted in Dowden's *Correspondence of Southey with Catherine Bowles* (the poetess, who became Southey's second wife), in which Southey alludes to the satire, and offers to mark which verses were his and which were Coleridge's. A claim to the authorship, or a share in it, has also been made for Professor Porson, on no very tangible grounds, beyond that he was on terms of intimacy with both poets. There may have been some soreness upon this point, however; as, after the great Greek scholar's death, Southey added some verses to the poem severely satirizing the man who

Could drink (so) like a Trojan
Or talk (so) like a Greek.

The piece will be found in almost any volume of Selections and most books of Recitations, but generally in a mutilated condition, and rarely with the author's name.

H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

QUERIES.

[3,334.] GILDA BROOK.—What is the origin of this name? JOHN BANCROFT.

[3,335.] APPARITOR.—Is this word correctly applied to an official in the Church of England? If so, what are his duties, and is there any quotation of the word as applied to such official? T. H. W.

[3,336.] THE AUGHTON PUDDING.—The village or hamlet of Aughton (locally pronounced Afton) stands in an elevated position high above the right bank of the Lune, in the beautiful vale of Lonsdale, Lancashire; the ancient hall and hamlet of Claughton being opposite on the left side of the river. Once in twenty years a plum pudding, weighing a ton, is said to be made in Aughton, and boiled for general delectation in a huge pan or vessel used there for the softening of osier twigs in basket making. It is now about eighteen years since the making of the last pudding. Can any Lancashire reader explain the origin of this custom, or give any further and perhaps more reliable particulars? J. SPENCE HODGSON.

Altrincham.

JONE AT TH' BIRCHES AND JOSHUA BROOKS.

Owd Jone at th' Birches was an original character, who, as his name indicates, lived at Birches, a place near Lees, sometime about the beginning of the present century. His old sayings are still treasured up in many a household, and, like certain old half-pennies, pass for current coin among a class of people who get scarcer every day, namely—"gradely owd-fashioned Lancashire folk." Jone was the eldest son of a large family, and evidently believed in hereditary wisdom; hence the saying—"I'm th' owdst son and I SHOULD ha' mooast wit, as owd Jone at th' Birches said."

When Jone's father died the farm on which he lived was transferred to Jone, in accordance with an old custom common among the tenants of the Earl of Warrington. "Prisers" came to value the stock and chattels and Jone had to pay off the other members of the family as stated in his father's will. While this "prising" or appraising was going on (which I may say was generally done by two neighbours appointed under the will) Jone is reported to have followed the prisers round, and now and again would administer the following exhortation:—"Neaw, neaw lads, do fair, but elder lean to me," and thus the

origin of the saying, "elder lean, as owd Jone at th' Birches said."

Perhaps the most interesting anecdote in connection with Jone was on the occasion of his marriage. I know not how many couples were at the ceremony, but these hearty souls trudged on foot "o'er field, meadow, and stile" from Birches to Manchester Old Church and back, a distance of some sixteen or seventeen miles in all, of course making occasional calls on the way. "Donty at th' Roe-lone" was Jone's best man, and he is said to have been always in for a "lark." He seems to have been pretty well acquainted with the Rev. Joshua Brooks, who at that time generally presided at Hymen's altar, especially at a country wedding. It is well known that the Rev. Joshua would always have his joke, and "Donty" knew this as well as anybody. Due notice had been given to the Church officials of the wedding, and the Rev. Joshua was awaiting in the church porch at the appointed time its arrival.

Jone, then a young man of course, was one of the last couple in that happy crowd, and his shoe-strings, through the long walk, had become untied. Arrived at church, as he stooped down to fasten his shoe-strings, he shouted to Donty, who was leading the blushing bride, to "tell owd Joshua ut he'd be in as soon as he'd teed his shoon." The Rev. Joshua heard this remark unperceived by Jone and winked at Donty as the wedding party, all but the expectant bridegroom, passed by him into the church. Donty, having shown the bride elect into the church, immediately returned to the porch, where he found what old Joshua meant by his knowing wink. The reverend gentleman had closed the church door and turned the key on the unlucky bridegroom, and there Donty found the inveterate joker waiting behind the door for what was to follow. The beleaguered bridegroom approached the church door, and to his horror found himself locked out. Then came the storm: first a shake at the door, then a rattle, then a thunge; but all to no purpose. There was no voice, nor any to answer. The infuriated bridegroom feared lest his intended should be married to "th' wrarg felly." Jone had heard of such things occurring in Manchester Old Church. He knew that "th' parson" had gone into the church, and he feared the worst. Then he mustered up his courage, and didn't he lay his "newly teed shoon into that oak dur?" At length the reverend joker broke silence, and in his peculiar

stentorian voice howled through the keyhole—"Who art theaw, theaw owd bobbin winder?" The distressed bridegroom imitating the strong voice of Brooks, in a tone of mixed irony and rage, howled back again, "Who art theaw, theaw owd bobbin winder? I'm th' main mon, and if theaw doesno oppen this dur, egadlings I'll punce it deawn!"

The wedding party inside church were becoming alarmed at the state of things. There was no parson in sight, and, worse still, "th' felly were lost ut should ha' bin wed." Besides, "wheare were Donty?" Then it began to dawn on the minds of some of the party that they were going to have a "jow fair." Perceiving how matters stood, Old Brooks, having had his joke, quietly slipped off into the vestry leaving Donty in charge of the door, with instructions to admit the now ferocious bridegroom as soon as he had got nicely out of the way; and just as this "oily man of God," duly robed, emerged with a smiling face from the vestry to perform his important function, Donty was leading up the aisle in triumph the belated bridegroom, covered with sweat, his broken umbrella in hand, and a new pair of newly "teed shoon" nearly punced off his feet, to the no small satisfaction of his waiting friends inside church. Thus in country places hereabout since that day it has been a saying: "Who art theaw, theaw owd bobbin winder? said Josha Brucks;" and "I'm th' main mon, said owd Jone at th' Birches."

PHILANDER.

Hey, Lees, Oldham.

Mr. Tennyson's acceptance of a peerage, under the title of Baron Tennyson D'Eyncourt, has been announced this week, and it has created, especially in the Republic of Letters, a wide-spread and almost unanimous feeling of surprise and regret. The ablest Conservative journal, the *Standard*, said that at first it refused to believe the report: "because, in the first place, a seat in the House of Lords is not, in itself, an appropriate reward for a great poet; and, in the second place, because we should have thought that all Mr. Tennyson's instincts would have inclined him to refuse it. The great poet, artist, or philosopher belongs to the nobility of all ages and countries. It is he that is an honour to the land of his birth and to the age in which he lives. What has such a man to do with the paltry distinctions recorded in Burke or Debrett?" The Radical *Pall Mall Gazette* likes the peerage no better. "The barony," it says, "is a dignity that Mr. Tennyson could have done well to decline. If he prefers that kind of thing, well and good; there is no more to be said. But we should all have thought more of him if he had thought less of it."

Saturday, December 29, 1883.

NOTES.

LINDSAY AND LYON FAMILIES: EXTRAORDINARY COINCIDENCE.

[3,337.] It may be interesting to some of your readers to know that on the 22nd of November, of 1383, Sir John De Lyon, Great Chamberlain of Scotland, secretary and son-in-law to King Robert II., fell in a scuffle with Sir James Lindsay, of Crawford, at the Moss of Balhall, county Forfar. The followers of both knights fought also. On the 22nd of November, 1883, the descendant of Sir John De Lyon, viz., the Honourable Francis Lyon, second son of the present Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, married Lady Anne Lindsay, of the noble family of Crawford, the direct descendant of the Sir James Lindsay, who slew her husband's ancestor, Sir John De Lyon, 500 years before.

C. DAGGATT.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MARLER.

(Query No. 3,327, December 15.)

[3,338.] I have a complete manuscript copy of the monumental inscriptions on the floor of Stanley Chapel, taken August 30, 1830. The Marler double stone is No. 51, and has a brass-plate inserted thereon. On the right-hand side are the Arms—Marler impaling Nuttall—and below an inscription to John Marler, gent., 1651, Joan his wife, 1655, and many others of the same name. Then follows James Robertson, of the Royal Engineers, and a long description of the Arms of Robertson. The whole is too long for Notes and Queries, and would not be interesting to general readers, but *ANTIQUARY* can inspect the MSS. and take a copy if he desires.

CHARLES JORDAN.

Sale.

THE WALKING AND TALKING SMITHS.

(Note No. 3,313, December 8.)

[3,339.] I have waited to see a reply from some one to Mrs. LINNÆUS BANKS's inquiry for further information in connection with the above gentlemen, but the response to her interesting note has not come. As a lad, from eight to eleven, I have a very distinct recollection of them, because in their annual visits to Buxton they always stayed at the Hall Hotel,

and, as a young member of the family which then kept that house, I was a frequent recipient of tips from them. They took great notice of children, and would distribute coppers and sixpences among them in a demoralizing profusion, the Talking Smith especially. I do not know which was the older of the two brothers, but the Walking Smith was the most vigorous. The Talking Smith would fill his pockets with loose change before he left the hotel for his morning stroll to Burbage, which then contained a number of poor people, many of whom lived in the scooped-out lime ash hillocks. He would walk with his hands behind him, his right hand resting in his left, and containing pennies and sixpences. The poor folk, knowing his ways, and that he did not like to be importuned, would help themselves as he intended. He would smile in response to their "God bless you!" and thanks, but continue his walk and soliloquies without interruption in the wake of his brother. One wore knee-breeches and the other trousers, but I do not remember which wore the breeches.

THORNCLIFFE.

Buxton.

MERLIN'S PROPHECY IN KING LEAR.

(Query No. 3,318, December 8.)

[3,340.] *King Lear*, act iii., scene 2:—

Then shall this realm of Albion
Come to great confusion;
Then comes the time, who lives to see't,
That going shall be used with feet.

According to Dr. Warburton, whose emendation was highly approved by Dr. Johnson as disentangling the confusion of the Fool's speech, "the reader must observe, through this heap of nonsense, that this speech is not one but two prophecies. The first, a satirical description of the present manners as future; and the second, a satirical description of future manners which the corruption of the present would prevent from ever happening. Each of these prophecies has its proper inference or deduction." Thus, the first prophecy is contained in lines beginning "I'll speak," and ending in "suitors." Then comes the inference contained in the last lines of the quotation:—

Then comes the time, who lives to see't,
That going shall be used with feet,

i.e. Now. The second prophecy begins, "When every

case in law is right;" and ends, "do churches build, followed by the second deduction:—

Then shall the realm of Albion
Come to great confusion,

i.e. Never. With regard to Merlin, Shakspeare is guilty of an anachronism of malice prepense.

M. G.

[The passage quoted by the Querist can, of course, only be properly understood by taking the whole of the speech, when it will be perceived to be a bit of satiric irony, as explained by "M. G." above. The best commentators are now pretty well agreed that the passage is not Shakspeare's at all, but an after interpolation. It is not in the quarto edition of the play published in 1608. Cowden Clarke observes that "the prophecy is clearly a scrap of ribaldry tacked on by the actor who played the Fool, to please 'the barren spectators;' just one of those instances of irrelevant and extemporaneous jesting to which Shakspeare himself, through his character of Hamlet, so strongly objects. The fact of the Fool's speech occurring after Lear has left the stage alone serves to condemn it as spurious." The faithful Fool would not have let his old master Lear go off half-crazed into the storm in order that he might stay behind to utter a pointless and uncalled-for imitation of Chaucer.—EDITOR.]

CHRIST CHURCH AND JAMES GASKILL.

(Nos. 3,317 and 3,319.)

[3,341.] W. J. B. gives the date of the erection of Christ Church, Hulme, as 1809, but there is a stone built in the wall fronting Queen-street on which the date is given as 1807. The Rev. William Cowherd, founder of the Bible Christians, King-street, Salford, built Christ Church, Hulme. The property passed from him to Mr. Brotherton, late M.P. for Salford, one of the executors, who paid off the encumbrances on the building. Mr. James Gaskill bought it from Mr. Brotherton, subject to a chief payable to the trustees of the Christ Church Salford Bible Christians, who were the owners by Mr. Cowherd's will. The place was built for Bible Christians, and several members of that body officiated there, viz., the Rev. James Clarke (not the present J. Clarke), the Rev. James Schofield, and Mr. James Gaskill. The latter never used the title Reverend.

Mr. Gaskill was considered the best lecturer on pneumatics in this part of the country. His punctuality was extraordinary. It was not uncommon for a class of young men to meet at six o'clock on the Sunday morning. He was sure to be there to meet them. I never saw or heard of him being late for more than forty years. Near the end of his life he was several times late in the afternoon, as he used to rest before coming down to school

again. His punctuality had a marked effect on the young persons attending the school.

Mr. Gaskill was interred in the Salford Cemetery on August 20, 1870. He rests near his old friends, Mr. Brotherton and Mr. William Harvey. His devoted sister, Mrs. Lomas, who attended to him in his last sickness, now rests in the same grave, and their names are recorded on a monument erected over them. Mr. Elijah Dixon, of Newton Heath, attended Mr. Gaskill's funeral. He was the only one there known to be alive that was in the procession at New Cross, and the only one alive that was at the opening of the School. After the death of Mr. Gaskill, Mr. Dixon preached two sermons at the School. He too has now gone to his rest.

THOMAS CREIGHTON.

[A good deal of information about the Rev. Mr. Cowherd and incidentally about Christ Church, Hulme, appeared in these Notes and Queries in 1878 and 1880.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

[3,342.] **SIR GEORGE PHILIPS.**—Can any reader oblige me with two or three facts concerning Sir George Philips, who resided at Sedgley Hall, Prestwich, when the present century was in its teens? Was Sir George the first baronet, and if so what were the circumstances under which he obtained the honour? Was he the founder of the well-known Manchester firm of manufacturers which bear that name?

A STUDENT.

Wilmslow.

The publications of 1883 exceeded those of 1882 by 754 volumes. The *Pall Mall Gazette* remarks that the literature of the year has been characterized by high unbroken mediocrity. To contemplate the quality of the increasing number of worthy books which load our library tables is not altogether encouraging. Excellence of a kind, such excellence as high culture and laborious investigation can give, is indeed becoming more common, but distinction is increasingly rare. Whether it be that with all our restless study of many things we lack the "infinite capacity for taking pains" over any particular thing, or whether some subtler influence is wanting, the fact remains that works of genius, never very common, have been less common in England of late years than at any time for the last century. The great writers of an earlier generation who still live on among us have not added to their reputation, while few younger writers are showing to the front.

Saturday, January 5, 1883.

NOTES.

THE BLAKISTON FAMILY: A TURN OF FORTUNE'S WHEEL.

[3,343.] The death of the late Sir Matthew Blakiston, Baronet, of Sandy Brook Hall, near Ashbourne, causes his young relative, Horace Neville Blakiston, to have a remarkable "lift" in the social scale. Until recently, it is said, Sir Matthew actually allowed his indisputable heir to act as an auctioneer's clerk at Huntingdon. The family derive descent from the royal house of Plantagenet through the marriage of the first baronet with a member of the Dixie family. Sir Horace N. Blakiston is owner of Sandy Brook Hall and fifth baronet. His mother is the second daughter of the Rev. W. H. G. Mann, late vicar of Bowdon, and his late father was a younger brother of the baronet lately deceased.

C. D.

MARIO AND GRISI.

[3,344.] Mr. G. A. Sala, in his *Illustrated News Gossip* of December 22, refers—somewhat dubiously, I would infer—to a statement of an Italian newspaper that during his career Mario must have earned the large sum of £400,000. I quite agree with Mr. Sala that there is sadly too much inquisitiveness and chatter amongst the public as to the earnings of artists. The public appetite for information about the private life of their favourites is insatiable, and Mr. Sala himself thought it worth while to testify to his belief in the existence of the weakness by making it the subject of his Gossip. For my own part I see no reason whatever to doubt the statement. Indeed, if it needed correction I should be disposed to put the boot on the other leg, and say that the total receipts of Signor Mario and his wife, the great Diva, Giulia Grisi, during the twenty years of their career must have exceeded £400,000.

My late father (who for many years worked so laboriously, with so poor a requital withal, as a social reformer, endeavouring to cultivate a taste for music among the masses by providing first-class concerts at low prices) I well remember telling me that while dining with Signor Mario, the tenor had told him that his own income had averaged from ten to twelve thousand pounds per annum, viz.:—London opera,

£3,500; concerts, £1,500; tournée, £2,000; and Paris or St. Petersburg, £4,000. My friend Willert Beale, who for years acted as entrepreneur to the principal concert parties for their provincial tours, assured me that he gave them each £200 per week besides providing them with princely hotel expenses.

Great as this sum appears it is not so large as artists of their popularity and fame receive at the present day. Thirty years ago concert-giving was very different to what it is now. There was not the musical population to begin with, grand concerts being looked upon in comparatively large towns in those days almost with as much astonishment as the appearance of a black swan might have created, and the means of intercommunication added to the difficulties and cost of dragging companies through the provinces. It was no uncommon occurrence for the entrepreneur to post from town to town. I remember Grisi relating with great excitement an adventure in which instead of finding themselves at Sheffield, where the concert was to be given, to their horror discovered they had arrived at Matlock, the driver having missed the way; and how, by dint of furious driving, they arrived at their destination only just in time to save a denouement by singing in their travelling dresses. America, too, though not in such a musically infantine state as the great Malibran found it, when her father rushing on the stage dressed for Don Giovanni, sword in hand, made the orchestra repeat one of the numbers, was very far from being in the position to entertain and reward lyric or dramatic artists in the right royal manner they do at the present day.

Fault used to be found with Grisi and Mario that they were so loth to leave the stage when they were no longer their former selves. It was frequently overlooked that it was by the greatest pressure only that they yielded to entreaties to make "still another appearance" from quarters which are generally considered commands. Whether thereby they injured their reputation may be a moot point. They, however, never made themselves into musical hacks, as is recorded of other great artists who received large sums—Catalani, for instance. Grisi and Mario showed their allegiance to their art by unswerving fidelity. They deprecated from the bottom of their hearts the system of enhancing the position of the principals by weakening the secondary positions. Their aim was to be nothing more than a part of a whole. Catalani, it is recorded, made enormous sums at a period still less calculated for money-making than when Grisi

and Mario were the shining lights of the musical constellation. Catalani, however, or rather her greedy husband for her, sacrificed everything to money-making. Her concerts he used to describe as by *ma femme et trois ou quatre poupées*.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE MARLER FAMILY.

(Nos. 3,327 and 3,338).

[3,345.] There seem to have been several families of this name resident in or about Manchester during the sixteenth, seventeenth, and early part of the eighteenth centuries.

In a recital of the indenture founding the Grammar School in 1519, a Thomas Marler is mentioned as one of the feoffees of Barnard Oldham, Archdeacon of Cornwall. Sir Hugh Marler was one of the priests of the St. George's Chantry, in the Collegiate Church, in 1523 (see *Hist. of Chantries*, vol. 59, Chet. Soc.), where there are mentioned at least three persons of that name holding lands or tenements from the Collegiate Church. In the volume of the Court Leet records issued by the Chetham Society (vol. 63) there are references to several persons of the name of Marler, one of whom Robert Marler seems to have been a person of position in the town. He was a Court Leet juror in 1552, and an affearor in 1572, besides filling other offices. In 1561 we find another with the same patronymic, not filling quite so high a position, for on the 21st of October in that year the jury presented "one Joane Marler, spinster, and Elizabeth Lord, that they two came to the house of George Proudlove, in the Denes Gate, and there did enter into the same and take certain chippes [? firewood] without license contrary to honesty, and to the evil ensample of all good people, they being forewarned: We order therefore that the said Joane and Elizabeth shall have condign punishment for the same at the discretion of Mr. Steward, after which punishment shall kneel down, [ac]knowledge their fault, ask mercy at God's hands and the said George."

Edward Marler, nephew and heir of the above-mentioned Robert, was Boroughreeve in 1621. His son and heir was John Marler, who twice filled the office of Boroughreeve, besides those of Senior and Junior Constable. He was a donor to the Grammar School Library in or about the year 1640, and

was one of the eight of the name of Marler who signed the Protestation in Manchester, 1641-2 (*Palatine Note Book*, vol. 1). Mr. Bailey there says, "that in 1636 he was described as of the Mealegate," and most probably "the painted window in Old Millgate," from which Barrit got the arms would be this John Marler's house.

James Marler was one of the twenty-five "better sort of the townsmen" who in 1642 signed the declaration that Sir Thomas Stanley, John Holcroft, and Thomas Birch were disturbers of the peace of the town. There was a John Mader (? Marler) also, who signed the declaration. In 1645 the Churchwardens of Didsbury "spent to procure Mr. Marler to teach one day, 00.00.04. Good Henry Newcome only once refers to the name (*Autob.* I. 74) where he speaks of "Bull Marler's wife (one of the coarsest pieces in our town)." But among the 130 parishioners who in 1656 elected him "minister of God's word" in the place of Richard Holinworth was a Robert Marler. This Robert Marler was one of the twenty-nine inhabitants who in 1645 officially notified the election of Charles Worsley as M.P. for Manchester, and who filled the offices of boroughreeve in 1655, and churchwarden in 1663.

Humphrey Marler was senior constable in 1670, boroughreeve in 1676, and churchwarden in 1669 and 1679. John Marler was churchwarden in 1674 and 1682, and senior constable in 1677. He was on terms of friendship with the Plungen family, and in 1684 is described as of Manchester, gent.—(*Palatine Note Book*, Nov. and Dec., 1883.

Mr. Earwaker has included eight persons of the name of Marler between the dates of 1582-1649 in his two volumes of *Wells at Chester*, issued by the Record Society, and four of these are described as of Failsworth, and all between the years 1637-1649. As early as 1473, Thomas Merler held one close of land at Newton at a rental of 8s. (*Mamecestre* vol iii., Chet. Soc. 58). Mr. Harland suggests Master instead of Merler, but it seems as likely to be Marler. In 1566 Robert Marler was ordered by the Court Leet to make a sufficient course at the end of his fold that the water which cometh down Newton Lane may pass; and in the *Palatine Note Book* (vol. ii., p 243) is a deposition of John Marlör, of Failsworth, chapman, concerning the Lancashire Riots in 1715. From these it would seem that a branch of the family had long been resident at Failsworth.

An examination of the other volumes of the Court

Leet Records would no doubt reveal interesting particulars of the members of the Marler family, as they seem to have identified themselves closely with the public life of the town. C.

THE COUNTRYMAN'S PHARMACOPŒIA.

(Note No. 3,329, December 22.)

[3,346.] Beetles or cockroaches are not unknown to the scientific pharmacoposia; some peculiar preparation of the insect being used as a remedy for Bright's disease of the kidneys.

ISABELLA BANKS.

UNINTELLIGIBLE OCCUPATIONS.

(Note No. 3,328, December 22.)

[3,347.] I think it will be found that these names are capable of explanation by one or another.

Barker has two applications; first, to the man who barks the felled trees on park or forest land; secondly, to the person who has charge of the bark used in a tannery.

Can-breaker may apply to one who gets his living by breaking up the old tins used for preserved meats, preparatory to the adaptation of the tin to other uses.

Flat-keeper would be almost synonymous with bargeman.

Idleback maker, one who moulds the peculiar composition called idleback, brought into use between forty and fifty years back to whiten steps and hearths, requiring less labour than sand and stone, and being less fugitive than pipeclay or whiting.

Maiden-maker would mean a maker of wooden clothes-maidens, clothes-horses, or "winter-hedges," as they were called in time past, being winter substitutes for the green hedges on which newly washed garments were spread out to dry.

Sprigger would, I think, be a maker of sprig-nails. It may, however, have another derivation, and refer to the sprigging of muslin, or of printed calico.

Some one better informed may either correct me if I am in error, or supplement what few solutions I have supplied.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

SIR GEORGE PHILIPS, BARONET.

(Nos. 3,342, December 29.)

[3,348.] In reply to A STUDENT (Wilmslow) I beg to state that the family from which the late Sir George Philips was descended has been established for centuries in the county of Stafford. Francis

Phylippe, who lived in the time of King Henry VIII. and King Edward VI., left a son John, who lived at Nether Teyne, and who spelt his surname "Philips." This John left, with other issue, at his decease in 1641, Anthony Philips, Esq., who married, in 1627, Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Rawlins, Esq., of Teane, and was succeeded in 1648 by his son Richard, who, dying in 1686, was succeeded by his son Nathaniel. This Nathaniel was born in 1659, and lived at the Heath House. He had three daughters and four sons, viz.:—

(1) John, his heir, born 1695.

(2) Richard, whose son Nathaniel was father of the wife of Sir George Philips, Bart.

(3) Nathaniel, of Manchester, grandfather of the late Francis Philips, of Bank Hall.

(4) Thomas, who left issue.

Nathaniel, the father of these four gentlemen, died in 1737, and was succeeded by his eldest son, John Philips, Esq., of the Heath House, lord of the manors of Upper Teyne, Nether Teyne, and Checkley, who was born in 1695, married 1722, and died 1775. He also left three daughters and four sons, viz.:—

(1.) John, his heir, who died in 1813, without issue, and his estates devolved upon John, the eldest son of his next brother.

(2.) Nathaniel, who married in Dec. 1757, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Hibbert, Esq., of Stockfield House, Lancashire, and dying 29th Sept., 1808, left three sons, viz. (1) John, who succeeded his uncle John, and had issue (2) Robert of the Park, Prestwich, and Snitterfield Park, Warwick, who married Miss Anne Needham, and had issue Mark, late M.P. for Manchester, who was born in the year 1800 and died unmarried in 1873; Robert Needham, M.P. for Bury; Mary married to Robert Hyde Greg, of Norcliffe Hall, Cheshire; and other children.

(3.) Thomas, who resided at Sedgley, and whose eldest son George (the subject of the Query) was created a baronet on the 21st February, 1828.

(4.) Richard, who died young.

The George who was created a baronet was born March 24, 1766, and married October, 16, 1788, Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Philips, Esq., of Hollinghurst, Lancashire, as before alluded to. He resided at Sedgley and at Weston, in Warwickshire (the latter becoming the chief seat of the family), and died 3rd October 1847, at a good old age, full of years and honours. He left an only son, Sir George Richard Philips, the second and last baronet, born

December 23, 1789, lately deceased. The baronetcy is now extinct as the late holder of the title left no sons. His three daughters married respectively, Adam, second Earl of Camperdown; Robert, second Baron Carew; and James, fourteenth Earl of Caithness.

Sir George Philips, I have heard, did not actually found the well-known firm of Manchesters manufacturers. I have always understood that his father, Thomas Philips, did. Thomas Philips was born March 24, 1728, and married Mary, only daughter and heir of John Rider, Esq., of Manchester. His relative Nathaniel, son of the Nathaniel born in 1659, was the first to seek his fortune in Manchester and may have had something to do with founding the manufacturing firm now existing.

C. DAGGATT.

QUERIES.

[3,349.] FULLING MILLS.—Why are fulling mills sometimes called walk mills?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[3,350.] THE REV. ROBERT ASSHETON. — In Trinity churchyard, Salford, is a gravestone belonging to the Rev. Robert Assheton, in Latin, of which I insert a part:—

Reliquiæ Rev. Roberti Assheton, Coll. Christi
in Manch, socio and Hujus Capellæ Ministri,
qui Obijt 11^o. K.L. Septembria.

What is the meaning of "K.L.," and why is it put on a stone?

J. LEIGH.

[3,351.] DOLLY VARDENS.—Amongst the many "seasonable" friends, known and unknown, who did me the honour of calling to express their kindly and (as a matter of course) wholly disinterested wishes for my happiness and prosperity during the year which has just begun, were a couple of not particularly cleanly individuals, who greeted me with "Compliments of the season, sir; we're the Dolly Varden, sir!" A visitor, a stranger to Cottonopolis, who happened to be near when the above-named gentry announced themselves and their mission, and who was much amused at the comical use which was made of the name of Dickens's charming heroine, asked me how it came to be thus applied. To my shame and confusion I was quite unable to give the reason, but promised to inquire. Can any of your learned correspondents throw any light on the matter?

L. D. A.

"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive.

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

MANCHESTER :

CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.

1884.

Subscription 4/- per Year, Post Free.

Carroll

Saturday, January 12, 1884.

NOTES.

THE SAXONS IN MANCHESTER.

[3,352.] Although the locality of Alport, Knott Mill, and Castle Field was obviously the site of the Roman Town of Mancunium, was it as certainly the locality of the Saxon dwellers? I venture to ask the opinions of your readers upon the following proposition: That the Cathedral site, by which I mean the land enclosed by the Irwell, Irk, Todd Lane, Hanging Ditch, and Cateaton-street, was the stronghold of the Saxons in Manchester, and that the position of the early church of St. Mary in St. Anne's Square, as affirmed by Dr. Whittaker, is purely mythical and without any basis; whereas my proposition rests upon the following facts:—

(1) The Saxon place-names, Todd Lane and Cateaton-street. I should like to know how early we can find these.

(2) The then sensible position of the Danes Gate at the end of Cateaton-street.

(3) St. Mary's Gate would complete the later formed defences which surrounded the market.

(4) The apparent antiquity of the old Meal Gate and the long Mill Gate.

(5) Most important—the finding of a stone with the figure of St. Michael upon it and an inscription in characters of the eighth or ninth centuries under the porch of the Old Church.

(6) The very strong position of the site, water being on three and a half sides.

(7) The College being the known seat of the Lord of the Manor from the Conquest, if not before.

(8) The finding of a piece of Saxon coffin lid or tombstone in the Old Churchyard—this last doubtful.

I find that a Cateaton-street exists in London, near St. Paul's, and I think also in Gloucester, and I am informed that the word, which is Saxon, means "the light-water town." Could it be the gate of the water town? There is a Todd Lane in Rochdale, and I believe in a similar position. Without seeking to reopen the question of its etymology, we may assume, I think, its Saxon origin, and that it probably was the Death Lane from its proximity to the churchyard. Of the other names in this locality, Fennell-street, Hunt's Bank, Half-street, Hilton's Court, Marsden's Court, Hope and Anchor Court, and Mill Brow, we need not trouble ourselves as

they are of much later date. It is, however, curious that, of the four gates, three are at the south side of the enclosure. Why was this? And again, where did the Hanging Bridge lead to? **ANTIQUARY.**

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE REV. ROBERT ASSHETON,

(Query No. 3,350, January 5.)

[3,353.] This should read "socii, et hujus capellæ ministri, qui obiit 11^o Kal. Septembris"—i.e., undecimo die ante Kalendas Septembris; viz., 22nd August. **CALCAR.**

* * *

"K. L." is evidently an abbreviation of "Kalendæ" (Calends). The Romans divided the month into Kalendæ, Nones, and Ides, the first of the month being the Kalendæ. The words "obiit 11^o K. L. Septembris" in the inscription on the gravestone of the Rev. Robert Assheton in Trinity Churchyard, Salford, simply mean that "he died on the ii^o of the Kalends of September, or September 2nd.

WILLIAM LAWSON.

DOLLY VARDENS.

(Query No. 3,531, January 5.)

[3,354.] Some eleven years ago the Corporation decided—I think very wisely—to abolish the old middens and privies within the city, which were reported by the Officer of Health to number some sixty thousands. The Surveyor to the Health Committee designed a dry closet which was adopted by the Corporation. It was due altogether to the refinement, romance, and perhaps youth of the draughtsman, whose special duty it was to commend the design to owners of property and builders, that we had the "sweet seventeen" inserted in the drawing, with her pretty coquettish dress and still more pretty face. Some one saw in a moment a likeness between this ideal young lady and the immortal heroine of Dickens in *Barnaby Rudge*, and strange to say the name has ever since stuck to the closets. What's more, vans and men engaged in the transmission have likewise inherited it. **X. L. C. R.**

* * *

The cinder-sifters first erected in Bolton were of the Manchester pattern, projecting from the wall, which reminded you of the dress "improver" or bustle of Dolly Varden. Hence the name.

Bolton.

WILLIAM MILLIGAN.

FULLING OR WALK MILLS.

(Query No. 3,349, January 5.)

[3,355.] A "walk mill" is a fulling mill—in German, Walkmühle. A "Walker," is a Fuller.

CALCAR.

* * *

My wife, who is a Scotchwoman, on seeing the Query remarked, "wauk (not walk) mill is where flannel is shrunk;" and she says my winter singlets come back from the wash "waukit." The last word I find in the Glossary at the end of Burns's Poems, with the explanation "thickened as fullers do cloth." Both must be right, as my waukit singlets are thickened as well as shrunk.

J. S. D.

* * *

In answer to Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY, a fulling mill is called also a walk mill, because to full and to walk in finishing woollen cloth are synonymous operations. Down to the introduction of machinery for the purpose, the process of fulling consisted in walking over the pieces. The practice was probably introduced from France or Brabant at a very early period, and the verb may come from "fouler," to press or tread upon.

She cursed the weaver and the walker—

The cloth that they had made.—*Percy's Reliques.*

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

* * *

"Walk mill" is merely an instance, among many, of the survival of the older Teutonic name (High German, Walkmühle; Anglo-Saxon, Wealc mylen) alongside the more modern Anglo-French Fulling mill. (French, La foulure). In the same way we have the patronymics Fuller and Walker (the latter having no reference whatever to pedestrianism, but being in fact the Saxon name for Fuller), which are synonymous, just as our English Taylor, the German Schneider, and the Dutch Kleermaker traced their origin to one common handicraft. From a philological point of view, walk mill is much the better name of the two. In the pedigree of words the one is a thorough-bred, the other a mongrel.

H. GANNON.

Didsbury.

* * *

In my part of Scotland (Ayrshire) fulling mills are called "wauk mills." This word "wauk" means to thicken, in the sense of drawing the fibres and threads of cloth closer together, thereby making the fabric more compact. The same word is also applied to the outicle of the palm of the hand when

hardened and thickened by manual labour; or to any callousness of the skin caused by pressure, such as sometimes happens on parts of the foot, caused by friction of the shoe or other caligular covering. In both cases such indurations are commonly designated as "waukit hide" or skin. WILLIAM LAWSON.

QUERIES.

[3,356.] SHOE MILL, CHOUGH MILL, OR CHEW MILL.—What is the meaning of this designation, common in North-east Lancashire? Is it from the "shooding" or hulling of oats? CALCAR.

[3,357.] ERRAND PEOPLE.—In a small trade directory for Frome (Somerset), appended to a local almanack for this year, I observe a list of what are described as "errand people." There are nine of them, five of whom are females; the days on which their services are available, together with the places to which they go from Frome and the houses of call on the route are given. The entry appeared to me so singular in these days of railways and telegraphs that it would be interesting to know whether such a calling is publicly followed in any other part of England? E. W.

Mr. Gladstone has advised the grant of a Civil List pension of £150 a year to Mr. Frederick J. Furnivall, whose labours on behalf of old English literature, as founder and director of the Chaucer Society and the New Shakspeare Society, and as worker for the Early English Text Society and other bodies, have been long, arduous, and unremunerative. No grant could have been more worthily bestowed.

Hermann Ulrici, the Shaksperian critic and commentator, who had been professor at Halle University for fifty years, died on the eleventh instant at the age of seventy-eight. His *Studies on Shakspeare's Dramatic Art* enjoys a well-deserved reputation. Another result of his studies is the Schlegel-Tieck translation of Shakspeare's works, which was published by the German Shakspeare Society under Professor Ulrici's editorship, nearly all the prefaces and introductions being from his pen.

STERNE'S HOUSE.—Sir George Wombwell has placed a large stone tablet over the principal entrance to Shandy Hall, at Coxwold, in the North Riding. It bears the following inscription:—"Here dwelt Laurence Sterne, for many years incumbent of Coxwold. Here he wrote *Tristram Shandy* and the *Sentimental Journey*. Died in London in 1768, aged 55 years." Shandy Hall has been converted into cottages, but it retains all its old features, and is practically precisely the same as when Sterne lived there.

Saturday, January 19, 1884.

NOTES.

THE MANCHESTER PAMPHLET SOCIETY.

[3,358.] The following is a copy of a ticket which I copied from a *Life of Tobias Smollett*, which recently passed through my hands:—

Manchester Pamphlet Society. No. 53. Entered Jan. 30, 1806. Dr. Roget, Mr. Loyd, Mr. Henry, Mr. Kay, Mr. Birley, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Lee, Dr. Dewar, Mr. Wm. Henry (resigned), Mr. Clegg, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Wood. Five days allowed for perusal. Forfeit for each day, twopence. Aston, printer, 84, Deansgate.

Any information respecting the formation or dissolution of the society would interest many readers.

HENRY GRAY.

Cathedral Yard.

AN ECCENTRIC DIVINE: THE REV. ROBERT

ROBINSON, D.D.

[3,359.] There were few more remarkable characters in this locality a century ago than the divine above-mentioned. His whims and eccentricities were his chief claims to notice during lifetime, and these are almost all that is remembered of him to-day. Of his early life, the date and place of his birth, and where he was educated, we are absolutely without information. He was ministering at Congleton as early as the year 1749, a fact which we glean from his earliest-known publication. The title of this pamphlet of 36 p.p. runs as follows:—

Mischievous Intentions of Popish Projectors frustrated; a just Reason for Gratitude and Exultation. A | SERMON | preached on | Sunday Nov. 5, 1749, | to a | SOCIETY | of | *Protestant Dissenters* | at | Congleton in Cheshire. | By Robert Robinson. Manchester: Printed by R. Whitworth, Bookseller, next the Angel Inn, near the Market Cross.

The anniversary of Gunpowder Plot is herein made the occasion of an exhortation upon the happy deliverance of the country from that conspiracy, and also, incidentally, from the affairs of 1715 and 1745, concluding, of course, with a suitable application. It is not wanting in interest, nor in sound common-sense; but the language in which some portions of it is couched would not be tolerated in the pulpit of to-day.

In 1752 he entered into the pastorate of the Old Chapel at Dukinfield, in succession to the Rev. William Buckley. Here he remained about three

years, when he received what he called a "causeless dismissal." He appears to have fallen under the lash of his congregation from the following circumstance:—A beggar called at his house for alms, and refusing to leave without some assistance, the irate parson sent for a constable and had him whipped on the spot. From Dukinfield Mr. Robinson removed to Dob Lane, Failsworth. Here he soon succeeded in getting into hot water by preaching (about 1757-8) two sermons on the then high price of corn. These orations were afterwards printed with the following title:—

The Great Sin and Danger of Oppression: | Two Sermons | preached | During the late high Prices of Corn, | To a | Society of Protestant Dissenters | at | Dob Lane End, | near Manchester, | by R. Robinson. | With a preface endeavouring to obviate some Reflections cast upon the Author for preaching the said sermons. "He that withholdeth corn the People shall Curse him, but Blessing shall be upon the Head of him that selleth it."—*Prov. xi. 28.* Manchester: Printed by R. Whitworth, Bookseller and Bookbinder, next the Weavers' Arms, at the Back of the Bull's Head (pp. 66).

These discourses were founded upon the following texts of Scripture:—(1) "The righteous considereth the cause of the poor, but the wicked regardeth not to know it." (*Prov. xxix. 7.*) (2) "He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his maker; but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor." (*Prov. xiv. 31.*)

Some estimate of their matter and manner may be gathered from the following short extract:—

To monopolize or engross the Necessaries of Life, with a design to enhance or raise the prices of them to an exorbitant pitch is wickedness, in the superlative degree. It is a most shocking and monstrous kind of oppression; nothing can exceed it, nor indeed come up to it. If a man was to set his Wits at work, and live to the age of Methusaleh, he might indeed commit the same crime over and over again, but he could never deserve a worse Character; for it is the very Quintessence of all other Vices in one."

The outspoken nature of these sermons greatly offended many of his congregation. From the time of their delivery he and his hearers were continually at loggerheads; and on December 14, 1774, he received another "causeless dismissal," signed by thirty-six members of his congregation. In reply to this document Mr. Robinson sent the following:—

To the Dissenters in Failsworth and Townships adjacent. This serves to inform you, that if People have power to quit their Seats and withdraw their subscriptions at Pleasure, the minister hath likewise Power to

officiate once a Day, once a Fortnight, or once a Month, at his Option, and may still maintain the character of officiating minister. I have been in Possession twenty Years, and intend to hold it (if Providence preserves me) to August 1st, 1782, and as much longer as I then see Cause. If you offer to put any Man into my Pulpit without my Consent, an Action will be immediately commenced against you, or you will be indicted for the said Offence; and if you refuse the payment of the Money directed by Mr. Lingard's last Will and Testament, his Executors will be called upon in the ecclesiastical Court, to shew Cause why the Money has not been properly vested, Security taken, and the Interest duly and punctually paid to R. ROBINSON.

In another place Mr. Robinson states that this "causeless dismission" was signed by eighteen subscribers and eighteen ciphers; the former having contributed £2. 8s. during the quarter ending December 24, 1774, and the ciphers nothing "through Debt, Poverty, Dependence, and want of a sense of Duty." He also addressed a letter upon this subject to the gentlemen connected with different Dissenting funds, describing the injuries he had suffered in the bitterest terms. The epistle concludes by saying, "As our Saviour said, they hated me without a cause—for which reason I shall shortly publish the Doctrine of Absolute Submission Discussed." If the volume was issued in order that his people might have a cause for their hate it probably achieved its purpose. It was issued under the following title:—

The | Doctrine | of | Absolute Submission | Discussed; | or, the | Natural right claimed by some Dissenters to | dismiss their Ministers at Pleasure | Exposed | as a practise produced by Principles of unrestrained | Liberty | Tho' contrary to the Dictates of Reason and Revelation. | By R. Robinson, D.D. | London: | Printed for the Author, and sold by E. & C | Dilly, Booksellers, in the Poultry, 1775. 48 pp.

An advertisement at the end of this tract states that "R. Whitworth, Bookseller in Manchester," has on sale:—

A small Scripture Catechism intended for the more speedy Instruction of Youth in the Principles of Religion;" and also announces as "Designed for the Press by the same Author, A Discourse in Vindication of the true and proper Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, as contained in the Sacred Scriptures; together with a practical Sermon upon rash Judgment; and a Postscript upon Metaphysical and Moral Truth."

From Failsworth he removed to Bredbury, where he purchased a house and land, which is still in the possession of his descendants. About the same time we are told that he made an arrangement with a

Manchester printer to edit an edition of the Bible, to appear in parts; the diploma of D.D. being procured (or assumed) in order to entrap the unwary subscriber. He appears to have been fearful of being buried alive, for he left instructions that upon his death his body should be kept a month before burial, and that his coffin should be made with a pane of glass over the face, which should be carefully watched each day for any traces of life. He was interred according to these directions, in a portion of his own grounds (near to the Bredbury School), and a square brick building was placed over the grave, having a doorway for the admission of the watchers. This is still to be seen.

Can any of your correspondents supply more detailed information respecting the life of this eccentric divine?

JAMES COCKS.

Woodley.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FULLING OR WALK MILLS.

(Nos. 3,349 and 3,355.)

[3,360.] I am obliged to the five correspondents who have answered this query, especially to Messrs. Cunliffe and Lawson. I often wonder why the latter name so seldom appears in the columns of the C. N. Now that HIRRIE has gone to the far south, an occasional gleam from the sparkling soul of his *confrere* would be very welcome.

O! Willie, we have miss'd you!

Anent the query. As a boy, I remember a fulling miller laying out the length of the mill floor pieces of cloth in the grease, wetting each fold with urine, and trampling it with his naked feet during and after the process. Almost certainly, as Messrs. Cunliffe and Gannon suggest, the designation "fuller" is a form of the French "fouler," and probably first brought into use in this country by the Flemish artizans, who introduced the manufacture of fine woollen cloths into England in the fourteenth century. The process of wetting before putting the cloth into the stocks is now done by machinery. Before the invention of stocks the fulling of cloth would probably be done by treading it or beating it with pieces of wood, as I have seen Italian peasantry wash their clothes on the banks of the Po. Mr. Gannon is right in saying that "walk mill" is from the German walkmuhle=fulling mill. Fulling mills are probably of older date than corn mills. In the

book of Isaiah, and again in the Second Book of Kings, giving an account of the reign of Hezekiah, 700 B.C., mention is made of the Fuller's Field. "Pliny relates that one Nicias, the son of Hermias, was the first inventor of the art of fulling; and it appears by an inscription, quoted by Sir G. Wheeler in his *Travels Through Greece*, that this same Nicias was a governor in Greece in the time of the Romans." (*Ency. Brit.*)

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

Close at hand we have a practical illustration of the use of the German term *Walcker* in lieu of the old English Fuller. Edward the Third's Flemish Queen Philippa encouraged woollen cloth workers from her own country to come to England. Several families of them settled in Manchester, and worked their trade on the banks of the river Irk below Long Millgate, hanging their yarns and pieces on the crofts opposite over the river. This locality thus became designated (and so continues) Walker's Croft. The site is now covered by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company's platform for Oldham and Ashton, excepting the lane or roadway, now a cul-de-sac, but before the new road to Cheetham Hill was cut a pleasant walk from Hunt's Bank to Red Bank alongside the river. Queen Philippa was herself an importer of Flemish wool, and her cargoes were landed at her wharf above London Bridge, then and still called Queenhithe—i.e., hithe or harbour.

JAMES BURY.

THE SAXONS IN MANCHESTER.

(Note No. 3,352, January 12.)

[3,361.] I find the following in Hollingworth's *History of Manchester*:—

About anno 920, Edward, King first of the West Saxons and afterwards of the Mercians, sent into the kingdom of the Northumbrians an army of Mercians that they should re-edify, sayth Roger Houden, the city of Manchester, and place valiant soldiers in it; or (as Fabian expressed it) this noble Prince, about the 20th year of his reign, was chosen by the King of Scots and Cambreyes to be their Lord and Patron; he repayed the city of Manchester, that sore was defaced with the warre of the Danes. After which, and other notable deeds, by this puissant Prince finished, this noble man died and was interred in the Monastery of St. Swithin in Manchester.

Is anything known of this monastery? The same historian (page 30) mentions that

About the year 1294 lived Hugo de Mancestria, a Dominican Friar, provincial of the Preachers in England, embassador to Philip, King of the Franks,

deane to Edward I. and Eleanor. Hee writt against a most impudent imposter, conjurer, and deceiver, which by many enchantments had brought his mother to madnesse. His bookes left behind him were *Phanaticorum Dilecta*, *Compendium Theologiæ*, and many others.

Barritt, in one of his Note-books (Chetham Library 8,026, page 54), says: "During the alterations of the streets in Manchester (1775-6), and a little while before the east side of Old Milgate was pulled down, I went to examine the old wood buildings, and was showed a stone hollowed within and carved on the outside with plain escutcheons. The uppermost rim or edge of the stone was that of an octagon. A person inhabiting the building said twenty or thirty years ago this stone was fixed upon a pedestal or foot which stood in a yard to the back of the house, and was always called the Font. Near which was the remains of an old stone building with a flat roof and a large circular window projecting outward in form of a bow, having the appearance of an old religious house, and hath long gone by the name of the Chapel-end. Whether it was the remains of a chapel I cannot say, having never heard or read anything of the kind before; yet this window fronts the east and resembles what they call it, the Chapel-end. Whether the old font once belonged to it, or was removed from some other church to make way for a more modern and elegant one, is not now to be determined. I took a drawing of the stone and one from a large old chimney-piece; likewise a drawing of two brackets which supported two windows to the street. The house I judged to have been built by some one of the Stanley family, most likely the Stanleys of Honford, who bore eagle's claws in their arms."

Are there any other references extant concerning old religious houses in Manchester, beyond those relating to the Parish Church? As regards the latter scarcely anything appears to be known of its history from Saxon times down to the beginning of the fifteenth century; and yet it seems certain, from the frequent discoveries of recent years in fragments of Saxon, Norman, and Early English mouldings, that some religious structure has existed on the present site from the earliest times.

Domesday Book speaks of two churches in Manchester, St. Michael's and St. Mary's. Now the present Cathedral is dedicated to St. Mary, St. George, and St. Denis (whence possibly St. Mary's Gate and Deansgate or Denisgate). Therefore, if it can be proved

that the ancient sculptured stone mentioned by your correspondent ANTIQUARY really represents the archangel Michael. we may have here something in support of Hollingworth's suggestion that the two churches "stood together in one churchyard, as Paul's and Gregory's in London."

Your correspondent's theory with regard to the site of Saxon Manchester must, I think, commend itself strongly to all who inquire into the subject. Besides the "Gates" (Meal Gate, St. Mary's Gate, Deansgate, and Long Mill Gate) enumerated by ANTIQUARY, I observe on an old map, in the vicinity of the Collegiate Church, Holdgate, Leversgate, Cock Gates, and of course the well-known Green Gate, the antiquity of which is evidenced by the number of ancient houses which stood there until quite recently.

JACQUES.

QUERIES.

[3,362.] CHANCEL IN OLD CHURCHES.—Why, in old churches (generally cruciform, I believe), is the chancel found built at a slight angle from the nave and not in a straight line with it? What is the origin of this seeming irregularity, and has it any symbolic meaning?

PIKELET.

[3,363.] THE CHARITY DINNER.—A reading entitled "The Charity Dinner," composed expressly for the late Mr. Bellew, was originally published in the Christmas number of some London periodical. A friend has asked me if I can remember when the publication took place, and in what magazine the composition appeared. As my memory fails me respecting it, perhaps some of your readers will kindly give the required information.

CHARLES HARDWICK.

SALARIES OF SCHOOL TEACHERS.—A curious statistic has been compiled by M. Emile de Laveleye as to the amounts given as salaries to school teachers in different parts of the world. In the United States the average per annum is £140 in New York State, £160 in Massachusetts, £184 in California, £92 in Ohio, £130 in Michigan. In England he finds that the average payment for a certificated teacher is £100, in Wales about £78. The average for non-certificated teachers is much less, varying from £48 to £62. In Scotland the average of the teachers of the Presbyterian schools is £69; the average for certificated schoolmistresses is rather over £62. In Denmark the average is from £86 to £135.

Saturday, January 26, 1883.

NOTES.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD CATHEDRAL.

[3,364.] Mr. Leo Grindon, in the course of an address on Gothic Cathedral Architecture, delivered on Tuesday evening before the members of the Field Naturalists and Archæologists' Society, alluded to the origin of the word Cathedral. It came, he said, from the Latin word "Cathedra," which meant chair. But the dictionaries did not say what "Cathedra" came from. Xenophon, the old Greek writer, who lived three or four centuries before Christ, in a charming book upon the rural sports of old Greece, described the pursuit of a hare, which at last sat down on the grass in the hope that it had escaped its pursuers. Xenophon called the spot the Kata hedra, meaning sitting down place. The name was afterwards given to the green bank on which persons might sit; by and by to any kind of stool, then to a bench, to a chair, and after a while the chair, occupied by a chairman, was a larger one than the others, and was decorated. The next move was the idea of a throne, and of a chair for the bishop of a diocese in the principal place of worship. Then the building itself came to be called Cathedral.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AN ECCENTRIC DIVINE: THE REV. ROBERT ROBINSON, D.D.

(No. 3,359, January 19.)

[3,365.] The Rev. Dr. Robinson contributed occasionally to the poetical columns of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. In vol. 59 (1789), part ii., p. 843, is a Latin poem, entitled "The Rev. Dr. Robinson's Advice to a Student upon his admission in the University." In vol. 60 (1790), part i., p. 12, 165: Translation of Latin Lines. In the same volume, p. 451. Horace, book i., ode viii., "To Lydia." All the above contributions are signed R. Robinson, and dated from Barrack Hill House, near Stockport, Cheshire.

In vol. 61 (1791), part ii., p. 755, I find the following note by the editor (*Gentleman's Magazine*):—"If N. P., who (p. 504) inquires whether it is consistent with principles of honour and conscience to sell the perpetual advowson of an ecclesiastical living, will take

the trouble to peruse *Strictures on Modern Simony*, a small pamphlet printed in 1767, he will find some observations on the subject well worth the attention of the clergy in general. Or, if he will send his address, directed to the Rev. Dr. R——n, to be left with Mr. Reddish, bookseller, in Stockport, Cheshire, he may possibly meet with a fuller answer."

In the obituary column (same volume), p. 1,165, is the following:—"Dec. 7. At his son's house in Manchester, in his 65th year, the Rev. Dr. Robert Robinson, formerly pastor of a congregation of Protestant Dissenters at Doblane End, near that town, for upwards of twenty years; and of whom an account shall be given in our Supplement."

At p. 1,232. (same vol.) the following account appears:—"Dr. Robinson was educated in London, under Dr. Marriott and Dr. Walker, at the Calvinistical Seminary at Plaisterers Hall, where he imbibed a set of theological principles which were diametrically opposite to those professors, and which, though he was no violent polemic dogmatist, necessarily occasioned him much trouble in his outset into the world as a dissenting preacher. He was, for more than forty years, a constant public, though for the most part an anonymous, writer. There are few newspapers or other periodical works of any note to which he did not contribute. He was a good classic, and in his younger years had been also a considerable proficient in those Oriental languages the knowledge of which is so necessary to form the precise and critical theologian. About the year 1769 his abilities as a writer attracted the notice of the University of Edinburgh, and, unsolicited and unexpected, he received a letter from that University, desiring his acceptance of the degree of a Doctor in Divinity as a mark of the favourable sentiments they had formed of his abilities from a work he had lately published. However flattering such a distinction might be he had serious objections to the offer, and actually wrote a letter to that learned body declining, with a suitable return of thanks, the honour they had proposed to confer upon him. He considered the obscurity of his then situation, being only the minister of a country congregation, the whole of whose subscriptions did not amount to ten pounds a year, as incompatible with such a clerical distinction. He was, however, again pressed to accept it, and at last did, by the united persuasion of several literary gentlemen. Unhappy differences arising between him and his congregation about the year 1775, he finally gave up the ministerial

charge, and soon after secluded himself from the world, comforting himself with the happy reflection that no moral wrong had been laid to his charge, and constantly expressing his gratitude for the little competency with which Providence had blessed him, and which had enabled him to support that independence for which he had all his life been remarkable. He had, for a great many years, expressed a lively antipathy against the slovenly and indecent manner in which corpses are interred in common churchyards; which sentiments occasioned him to erect a little cemetery near his own house, in which it was his anxious desire, wherever he might die, that his remains should, about the break of day, be quietly deposited, without the least funeral pomp or any ceremony whatever. His remains were, according to his desire, deposited in the vault of the cemetery on Thursday, the 15th of December, about seven o'clock in the morning. The frame of his mind may be gathered from the following lines, which were found in his pocket on a slip of paper at the time of his death:—

Am I afraid of this? My friends, I am not;
For I at midnight-hour could calmly meet
A drove of spirits down yon dusky hill,
And question one by one—'Friend, how do you?'
For father, mother, brother, sister, sons,
Husbands and wives, and all those paltry ties,
Are now no more: I see angelic forms,
Whose satisfactions from themselves arise,
Jointly and severally their Maker's praise
Resounding. Since the grand apostacy
Commenc'd, I number more among the dead
'Than living friends."

From the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 67 (1797), part i., p. 447, I extract the following:—" (Died) May 21. At her house at Barrack Hill, near Stockport, in her 77th year, Mrs. Robinson, relict of the late Rev. Dr. Robert Robinson, formerly minister of a dissenting congregation at Doblane, near Manchester."

DANIEL BENNETT.

Ardwick.

* * *

As supplementing in a small way the interesting notes of Mr. JAMES COCKS, I send you a few more details of that eccentric divine, the Rev. Robert Robinson, D.D., published in a short history of Dob Lane Chapel by the late Joseph Barratt, whose family had been connected with the chapel for several generations. The doctor, I find, was minister at Dob Lane from 1763 to 1775:—

Dob Lane Chapel was very numerously attended, so much so that forms had to be placed in the aisle, from

the time of its erection, 1698, until Robert Robinson became the minister. After he had been there some time he began to preach the Calvinistic doctrines, and ultimately he preached the congregation away. The trustees did all they could to get without him; they employed a lawyer in Manchester, and got a barrister's opinion from London, and at length they gave him a sum of money to get without him. He had treacherously obtained possession of the trust deeds, which he afterwards denied having, and had also got the key of the chapel, which he kept locked for three years. As no funerals could take place during this time, the grandmother of the present John Hobson was obliged to be buried in the garden until Robinson was got rid of.

The effect of having the chapel shut up so long was to scatter the congregation, and the greater part never returned. Some of them went to the Church Chapel, Elkanah Armitage joined the Calvinists, and a number never afterwards attended any place of worship, and their families became in a manner wild. The other two families of Armitage returned to the chapel, and Christopher Travis; and the descendants of these two families are all that now attend of the old congregation. There were in my remembrance the descendants of Samuel Taylor, of Moston, of John Hobson, Thomas Goodier, and Oliver Ogden that attended the chapel. In the old register belonging to the chapel there are a great number of baptisms entered from 1690 till 1760, and among such entries I have found the names of sixty-five different families, so that before Robert Robinson dispersed the congregation the chapel must have been very numerously attended.

Robert Robinson published in 1775 a scurrilous pamphlet of forty-eight pages respecting the congregation at Dob Lane, in which he complains of their conduct towards him. [The title of this was given in Mr. Cocks's note.] After going from Dob Lane he made application to become a minister in the Church, but was refused. I presume that, in consequence of his conduct both at Dob Lane and at Dukinfield, he could not get ordained, and, therefore, could not be a minister in the Church of England. He ultimately became insane.

LUKE POLLITT.

Newton Heath.

WALKER'S CROFT.

(No. 3,360, January 19.)

[3,366.] Walker's Croft retains the name of the owner, my great-grandfather. This name *may* have been derived from Walcker (a fuller), as he had a bleachery on one part of the land. The same Walker owned a part of Deansgate, from Quay-street to Camp-street, which he lost in Chancery. Some of the tenants of the shops became the owners, through having paid no rent for twenty-one years, whilst the Chancery suit was dragging its weary way through the Courts.

M. W.

THE CHARITY DINNER.

(Query No. 3,363, January 19.)

[3,367.] "The Charity Dinner," by Litchfield Moseley, was published in the Christmas number of *Once a Week* for 1870, which was that year entitled "Magic Leaves." The piece was prefaced by the following note:—"This piece, specially written for Mr. J. M. Bellew, and in which his copyright has just expired, has been read by him, amid roars of laughter, in almost every town of importance in the kingdom."

GEORGE W. LOCKWOOD.

* * *

Mr. HARDWICK will find this piece in a shilling volume of Readings by L. Moseley, and published by Frederick Warne and Co., London. Several years ago I had the pleasure of hearing the late Mr. Bellew recite this piece (*inter alia*) at Scarborough. It is fully twenty-five minutes long in delivery.

ARTHUR POOLE.

THE PLACE-NAME CHEW.

(Query No. 3,356, January 12.)

[3,368.] A correspondent asks the meaning of Shoe, Chew, or Chough as applied to a mill, and states that the designation is common in North-east Lancashire. Is it, he inquires, from the shooing or hulling of oats? I do not know the name in its connection with mills, but Dr. H. C. March, in his *East Lancashire Nomenclature*, cites the instances of Chowbent, Chowley, Chew Brook, Chew Clough, Chew Moor, and Chew Wells, and thinks the etymon is the Anglo-Saxon "ceo," the chough or jackdaw. Shakspeare makes Prince Henry use a diminutive form, in "Peace, chewet, peace." The A. S. "ceo" is pronounced chow. The subject is admittedly an obscure one, and anything like a satisfactory settlement of the question could only be arrived at by a historical tracing of the name, and an intimate knowledge of the several localities in past times. If, however, as CALCAR says, the name is common as applied to mills, some simple and obvious explanation ought to be forthcoming.

ION.

CHANCEL IN OLD CHURCHES.

(Query No. 3,362, January 19.)

[3,369.] The very outline of a church often represents the Cross of Christ, the chancel forming the head, the transept the arms, and the nave the body of the cross; and the altar whence the sacrifice ascends represents the heart. So closely was the

Redeemer's Cross sometimes imitated in old churches that a second transept was added—as at York, Salisbury, and many other places—to signify the writing which Pilate affixed to it; and the remarkable inclination towards one side which was often given to the chancel shadows forth the drooping of the adorable head of the Lamb of God in death. This will show your correspondent that the architectural design of churches is not merely formal, but symbolic.

G. ALTRER DARBYSHIRE.

Clifford-street, Moss Side.

* * *

Why in old churches (generally cruciform, I believe) is the chancel built at a slight angle from the nave, and not in a straight line with it? What is the origin of this seeming irregularity, and has it any symbolic meaning? My answer to this is yes. Most churches are built in the form of a Latin cross, but a great many differ from it and are not built in the form of the cross but of the image of the crucified Redeemer, some of the early Christians believing more in the Christ than the Cross. The ground plan of a church with the chancel built at a slight angle would represent symbolically the head of Christ after his death on the cross; the transverse bar of the cross would represent the arms of the Saviour, the shaft or nave representing the body and legs of the figure, being longer than the arms. The ground plan would form the shape of the figure of Christ as represented in most pictures. The old churches at Coventry and Ludlow and others are built in this form.

FREDERICK A. WHAITE.

Bridge-street.

QUERIES.

[3,370.] THE MAYOR OF ARDWICK.—When Manchester was a village it was a custom with the inhabitants of Ardwick to elect a Mayor and the customary officers. Is this ancient court still in existence, and who is the present Mayor?

ANCIENT ARDWICK.

[Some information about the constitution of the corporation of Ardwick will be found in the Notes and Queries for 1880, and reprinted in the volume for that year.—ED.]

There are no fewer than thirty thousand school libraries in France. Besides these there are 4,000 free public libraries, of which excellent use is being made. In this country there were in 1882 only ninety-six free libraries—a significant contrast.

Saturday, February 2, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

WALKER'S CROFT.

(Nos. 3,360 and 3,366).

[3,371.] The late Mr. John Harland, in his abstracts of deeds relating to Hopwood and Middleton, gives the following, dated September, 1437, with a red seal appended bearing a W for Walker:—

Indenture between Robert de Hopwood, Rector of the Church of Middleton, one part; and William le Walker [i.e. the fuller] de Mamcestr: other part. Robert to farm lets and demises to William a certain parcel of land lying in Mamcestr: in the middle of Hobcroft, sufficient for 12 tenters [tentoris, stretchers for cloths] for him the said William in the same place to be placed and fixed as by metes limited in length and breadth. And the same William to have the liberties of the said parcel of land, with incoming and outgoing to the said land and tenters, from the day of the present agreement to the end of 40 years next following, yielding therefor yearly to the said Robert a rose at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. Witnesses Edmund Trafford, Knt., Ralph Prestwich, James Prestwich, and others. Given at Mamcester, Sunday after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel [Sep. 29] 16 Henry VI. [1437].

This deed throws some light on the name of The Walker's Croft in Strangeways, which, it seems, was four centuries ago called Hobs Croft.

In vol. 72 of the Chetham Society's publications, giving what is known of the Strangeway's family, mention is made of "Thomas Strangwayes de Strangwaye, in 1514 had a quit claim as to a mesuage and tenement near the Walkers Croft, Strangeways."

I recollect many years ago an old brick house in the Walker's Croft, with a date and initial. It stood close to the Irk; but on the erection of the Victoria Station it disappeared. I don't see how M. W.'s great-grandfather could have given the name which it bore long before the said great-grandfather was born.

JOHN OWEN.

* * *

Etymology and nomenclature teach us that surnames are derived from men's trades, callings, occupations, localities, or personal peculiarities. The Manchester Directory for 1788 contains twenty-three Walkers (a comparatively large number), one of whom was a "Peter Walker, fuller and stone-dealer, Walker's Croft." There is no doubt but this tribe of Walkers were descendants of the wool-workers, walckers, or fullers who settled on the banks of the Irk in

Edward the Third's time. The same directory does not contain the name of a single "Fuller"—a proof that the German name Walcker took root, germinated, increased, and flourished as Walker.

JAMES BURY.

QUERIES.

[3,372.] HENRY IV. IN MANCHESTER.—In what year was *Henry the Fourth* played at the Prince's Theatre, with Charles Calvert as Falstaff and Phelps as King Henry?

H. TOMKINSON.

[3,373.] BELL-TINKER.—What is the derivation of the expression "Bell-tinker?" It is frequently used in this part of the county Palatine, and I cannot find any persons able to give its meaning or its origin.

E. B.

Fairfield.

[3,374.] "THE GRAND OLD MAN."—When was this designation first applied to Mr. Gladstone, and by whom? I have some recollection of a report of an address by Mr. Bradlaugh at the London Hall of Science some two or three years ago, after his right to take his seat had been defended by Mr. Gladstone, in which Mr. Bradlaugh spoke in terms of eulogy of the right hon. gentleman as "that grand old man at the head of the Government;" and this may perhaps have been the origin of the expression.

BETA.

[3,375.] HERBERT INGRAM AND PARR'S LIFE PILLS.—In the interesting account of the late Mr. Holloway which you quoted from the *Times* the other week, it is stated that "Parr's Life Pills were a discovery of the late Mr. Ingram, known also as the founder and proprietor of the *Illustrated London News*. His illustrated paper struggled at length into success, but it had uphill work to begin with. It was the first attempt of the kind, and it had, like the poet Wordsworth, to create the taste by which it was to be enjoyed. His pills were a more safe venture, a good deal less costly in their production, and appealing, in their implied promises, to a formed and universal wish." I have heard it stated by an old Manchester resident that Mr. Ingram began his business life in Manchester, and that he had a chemist's shop in Market-street. Here, it is alleged, he first issued an illustrated newspaper, as a sort of advertising medium for his pills. Is my informant right? I don't find Mr. Ingram's name in the old Manchester directories, and I have an impression that Nottingham was the town in which he started his career, and

that he was originally a news vendor. It will be remembered that Mr. Ingram was born at Boston, in Lincolnshire. He represented that town in Parliament from 1856 till the summer of 1860, when he, along with his eldest son, met his death in a terrible accident on lake Michigan. The *Illustrated London News* was started in 1842.

S. RHODES.

PLEASURE.—It is not pleasure that corrupts men; it is men who corrupt pleasure. Pleasure is good in itself. It is the seasoning which God, the All-wise and the All-good, gives to useful things and needful acts, in order that we may seek them.—*Dumoulin*.

MINOR POETS AND THE READING PUBLIC.—There are hundreds of volumes of verse published annually which nobody ever buys, and nobody ever attempts to read except the unlucky reviewer whose stern duty it is to look at them. Everybody also knows that of the volumes of verse which people both buy and read the number is extremely small. It is doubtful if so many as a dozen volumes of verse are produced annually which any one cares to purchase for the substantial return they may be expected to make for the money laid out upon them. And surely the general reading public in England—which is small in relation to the population, but still cannot fall short of 20,000 to 30,000, could tolerate more than a dozen volumes of poetry, if the poetry were worth anything.

RACE AND INDUSTRY.—What is it that imparts the curious quality of industry to any people? No animal except a beaver has it, and no man in the totally uncivilized and, therefore, presumably natural condition. The best test is piece-work, and we should say—and we have seen all of them at work—that, granted strict supervision and piece-work, the Chinaman was far away the most industrious worker in the world; that the well-fed negro comes next, provided he is allowed holidays—if not, he grows morose, like an overworked child; that the average Englishman comes third, provided he is allowed to make up for short hours by extra energy; that the Continental European comes next, working long hours rather perfunctorily; and that the brown man is last, with the exception of the savage, dreading overtime too much. He will not work to earn more than he thinks he wants, plus a modicum of hoarding, and is not tempted at all by overtime allowances. We should say, too, that while the yellow man already works up to his full power, and the black man can be induced to do the same—though not quite as continuously—the Englishman is approaching to the brown man in a deliberate desire to limit his own industry. He considers more leisure better worth his while than more pay, and is trying to secure it—a decision to which the brown man came two thousand years ago.—*Spectator*.

Saturday, February 9, 1884.

NOTE.

FULFILMENT OF A WISH: JESSE RAMSDEN, THE OPTICIAN.

[3,376.] The following account of a somewhat remarkable fulfilment of a wish may possibly interest those of your readers who are believers in thought-reading.

Many years ago, when the late Mr. William Ross was the Mayor of Salford, he showed to me a framed engraving of a portrait of Jesse Ramsden, an eminent optician of the last century. Mr. Ross had picked up the picture at some broker's shop. I had for certain reasons been on the look out for a copy of this print, and had sought in vain for one at the print-sellers and old curiosity shops in London. I offered Mr. Ross double the amount he had paid for the picture, but he would not part with it. My grandfather served his apprenticeship to a favourite pupil of Ramsden, and during my youth I had heard from my own father much of the sayings and doings of this remarkable man, whose invention of the Dividing Engine had so greatly increased the accuracy and efficiency of the graduations on sextants, quadrants, astronomical circles, and surveying instruments, and wheel-cutting engines for clocks and watches. When a young man I constructed for my own purposes an automatic modification of Ramsden's engine, and this work enabled me more fully to appreciate Ramsden's mechanical skill.

The sight of Mr. Ross's purchase made me resolve to try again to get my desire gratified, but I did not succeed. Some years after this a parcel was sent to my residence. When the parcel was opened it was found to contain a copy of the engraving I had so long searched for. My name and address only were on the parcel, but no information as to who the picture came from. The picture was carefully wrapped up again. I made several inquiries of friends but to no purpose. Whilst walking down Market-street, some weeks after the receipt of the parcel, a gentleman with whom I was only slightly acquainted tapped me on the shoulder and inquired if I had received Ramsden's portrait. I answered yes, but did not know who had sent it or for what purpose. He replied, "I sent it for your acceptance." I heartily thanked him and begged he would tell me

how he had heard that I had long wished for a copy. But he knew nothing of my wants; he was leaving his present residence and was fearful the picture might be injured during this removal; he was desirous of presenting the engraving to someone who would value it, more especially when they knew that it had formerly been in the possession of Dr. Dalton the celebrated chemist and philosopher. The gentleman was much amused at my story as related above. He said that his wife was shopping close at hand and begged I would go with him and relate my story to her. With this request I readily complied, Thus I obtained the fulfilment of my wish.

J. B. DANCE.

Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"THE GRAND OLD MAN."

(Query No. 3,374, February 2.)

[3,377.] I believe Sir William Harcourt first used the term "that grand old man" in connection with Mr. Gladstone. I am not sure where the speech was delivered, but think it was at Derby. TARGET.

* * *

I remember reading the report of a speech made by Mr. Leatham, M.P., in the autumn of 1879, in which he referred to Mr. Gladstone as the "grand old man." The Premier about that time was engaged in his memorable Midlothian campaign. B. A.

* * *

The title of the "grand old man" was first used by Mr. Kitson, chairman of the Leeds Liberal Association, at a public meeting of that association in October, 1881, at which the Premier was present. Sir Stafford Northcote has often been rebuked for applying the term to the Premier; he certainly made use of the words "the grand old man" at a banquet at Liverpool, but this was several months after Mr. Kitson had used them. W. KEMP.

HENRY IV. IN MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,372, February 2.)

[3,378.] *Henry the Fourth*, Second Part, was played in Manchester at the Prince's Theatre in September, 1874, and Mr. Phelps played Justice Shallow and the King. Mr. Calvert did not play in this revival. Mr. H. Vandenhoff took Falstaff. I believe when Charles Calvert played Falstaff Mr. Phelps was not in the cast at all. FRED. E. JACKSON.

* * *

Henry the Fourth, Part First, was produced at the Prince's Theatre October 28, 1868, the late Charles

Calvert playing Sir John Falstaff. *Henry the Fourth*, Second Part, was produced September 28, 1874, the late Samuel Phelps doubling the part of the King and Justice Shallow. Falstaff on that occasion was enacted by Henry Vandenhoff. I played in both pieces, but have no recollection whatever of Mr. Calvert playing in the latter. In fact he was confined to his bed at its commencement, and the piece was produced by

E. EDMONDS.

Theatre Royal, Manchester.

* * *

I am not aware that Calvert and Phelps ever played together in *Henry the Fourth*. However, on turning over my old playbills I find that I was present at a revival of the First Part of *Henry the Fourth* at the Prince's in 1868, with Calvert as Falstaff. Birch-enough played King Henry, Raymond Hotspur, Stretton Prince Hal, A. Bishop Poins, the veteran Peter Rae the Earl of Worcester, and Mrs. Calvert Lady Percy. On September 28, 1874, the Second Part of *Henry the Fourth* was revived by Calvert, with that care and attention to historical truth which characterized all his productions. The great feature of this revival was the unequalled impersonation of King Henry by Phelps, who also played the part of Justice Shallow. His magnificent delivery of the beautiful apostrophe to sleep, and his pathetic acting in the reconciliation scene with Prince Henry (Forbes Robertson) will not soon be forgotten. Justice Silence was played by Edmonds, now of the Royal. F. Mervin was Pistol, and H. Vandenhoff distinguished himself as Falstaff.

RICHARD R. ROBERTS.

HERBERT INGRAM AND PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

(Query No. 3,375, February 2.)

[3,379.] I have a far-back recollection of a relative of mine lettering some large signs which were placed on the walls of a house and shop in Chapel Bar in Nottingham, at the top end of the great market-place there. The premises were occupied by Messrs. Ingram and Cooke (brothers-in-law, I believe), but I cannot call up the date just now. It was stated on the signs that this was the chief depôt for the counties of Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, and Rutland for the sale of Morison's pills. Messrs. I. and C. also carried on the bookselling and printing and stationery trade, and were amongst the first to offer in Nottingham books and stationery much cheaper than others in trade there. The shop had a large window with numerous panes of glass in it, many of which were filled with comic or caricature sketches or etchings,

which were changed at short intervals, and were regularly and eagerly looked for as quite a new thing both by the general public and Saint Monday strollers. Messrs. I. and C. were also cheap printers, and worked at the trade themselves. I have several times prepared small quantities of colours for their coloured inks. After a time the Mr. Morison, whose agents they were, and who spelt his name with one r only, found that pills were in the market named as Morison's (two r's in the word) and I believe the agency fell through. About this time I think there were complaints of the noise arising from the late working of a large pestle and mortar in the basement of the premises, and said to be used in the making of pills, though whether of the Morrison or Parr kind I cannot say. After then the printing and stationery business was carried on in a similar manner by their successor, Mr. Batters, and I have no further knowledge of them.

I have heard that Mr. Ingram, in his early struggles, sought pecuniary help from a rich relative in Lincolnshire, but was refused by him. This relative afterwards, finding his industry had met with success, offered to assist him in further extending his projects, which Mr. I. declined; then, after the relative's death, it was found that a considerable sum had been left to Mr. Ingram.

I am sorry I cannot give Mr. RHODES the dates of the particulars I have named, as it might give the time of the bringing out of Parr's Life Pills before the public. Was not Mr. Ingram connected with a Mr. Little in the construction of an upright roller printing machine for printing the *London News*, which was shown in work at the Exhibition of 1851, I think? Mr. Cooke, I believe, afterwards published a beautifully illustrated series of books, which did not prove a financial success.

J. S. B.

BELL-TINKER.

(Query No. 3,373, February 2.)

[3,380.] I have known the word "bell-tinker" from a child, and many a time heard the bell of those indicated by it. In my native county, Hants, which is somewhat celebrated for gipsies, forty years ago and less the only tinkers belonged to this fraternity, and especially to the Lee and the Stanley families, who exist to-day no doubt, but probably not as tinkers, though they still may. At all events, things being thus, someone, who thought he might as well do the work as they, set up a little shop instead of a caravan and "trampazed" (as they termed it) the

neighbourhood round, announcing his approach by using a bell, which the gipsies, I believe, have never been known to use. This then was, and no doubt is, the distinction—the bell-tinker was the located man, who used a bell to announce his presence, as chimney-sweepers, coal hawkers, muffin men, and lots of other people do at this day in London and a hundred other places. But the gipsy who had no location hammered an old saucepan and an old kettle together.

I may say that this expression of bell-tinker is commonly used among very old people of remote Cheshire villages, and also from habit is now generally applied by them to all ironmongers who do tinsmith's work.

H. G. B. T.

FULLING OR WALK MILLS.

(Nos. 3,380 and others.)

[3,381.] When I was a youngster there was a small white and crimson wooden toy about, and the same toy or its fac-simile is still extant. It represented a fulling-mill—an ancient fulling-mill—with a man by the side turning a handle, which handle turned a cylinder set with spikes, which again as it revolved uplifted one or other of three wooden beams, also pegged, with somewhat the mechanism of a musical box. The feet of these miniature beams were set in a sort of tank or trough, and the action was precisely that of treading or walking. Enlarge the toy, put cloth or fleeces into the water trough, let a man turn the handle, and you have the primitive improvement on the olden plan of treading or walking on the wool in streams of running water to cleanse it, or in vessels by the river-side.

The Scotch mountain lassie to this day washes clothes with her bare feet, or did not long ago, dancing on them with "kilted" skirts in her tub by the burn side. Since the days of Homer, when the princess and her maids went down to the river side to purify the household linen, the process of walking or stamping upon them in water has been common. It must have been the first process in primitive bleaching; and the men who first took it up as a trade will have been called "walkers."

The fulling-mill would supersede the walking, and it might—I don't say it did—take its name from the fact that the heavy beams came down on a trough "full" of water and goods, which enabled the fuller to add the cleansing earth which derives its name from its early use—fuller's earth. In a running stream it would have been washed away,

ISABELLA BANKS.

THE REV. ROBERT ROBINSON, D.D.

(Nos. 3,359 and 3,365.)

[3,382.] In addition to the four pamphlets by Dr. Robinson, referred to by Mr. Cocks (of all of which I had copies bound up in a thin octavo volume, now most unfortunately I find gone astray), there is another very curious sermon from his pen, a copy of which has quite recently come into my hands. This is entitled as follows:—

The | Disappointed Amalekite. | A | Sermon | Delivered in the | Dissenting Meeting-house, | at | Dob Lane, near Manchester, | on | Thursday, January 30, 1777, | being the | Anniversary of the Martyrdom of | King Charles I. | By Robert Robinson, D.D. | Published at the Request of the Hearers. | Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear. | Rebuke them sharply.—St. Paul. | Manchester: | Printed by J. Prescott, near the Exchange. | MDCCLXXVII. Octavo, title as above; Preface one page; Sermon, pp. 5 to 20.

The Preface, which is a very characteristic specimen of Dr. Robinson's writing, begins by stating that "The following Discourse is occasioned by the cruel Usage I have met with from the Dissenters; it occurred to me that King Charles I. might be treated with that Injustice which I myself have in some Degree experienced, and that inconsiderate and unreasonable motives might influence his Enemies as well as mine." It concludes thus:—"Should anyone think that I have expressed myself on this Subject with too much Severity, I shall refer them to the Example of our Saviour and his Apostles, upon similar occasions; and I apprehend the Loss of a considerable Income will justify some things, which in another Person and in different Circumstances, might possibly appear too keen and satirical."

The text was 2 Samuel i. 14, "How! wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine Hand to destroy the Lord's Anointed;" and the preacher shows how the motives, which influenced men to overthrow the monarchy and ultimately to execute the king; were by no means then unknown, and that they had contributed to do much mischief to many persons and in many ways.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergelle, N. Wales.

QUERIES.

[3,383.] LANCASHIRE GLOSSARIES.—I will thank any of your correspondents who can do so to give a list of all the Lancashire glossaries hitherto published, with the titles, districts to which they relate, and the date of publication.

P. C.

[3,384.] **TATE, THE PORTRAIT PAINTER.**—Can any correspondent give the Christian name and some biographical notice of an artist named Tate, who painted, circa 1750, the admirable portrait of Mr. Charles White, now hanging in the library of the Royal Infirmary, and for payment of which an unknown benefactor sent the artist a cheque?

F. R.

[3,385.] **HUMPHREY CHETHAM AND THE MANCHESTER FOUNDATIONS.**—In the *British Quarterly Review* for October, 1854, appeared an interesting article of nearly forty pages with the above title. Can any of your readers say who was the author? He seems to have been familiar with Humphrey Chetham's papers, and prints several letters and memoranda which appear to have been taken directly from them. He also strongly advocates the severance of the Chetham Library from the Chetham Hospital, and the amalgamation of the Library with the Free Library.

J. P. E.

The Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool has been enlarged by the addition of five rooms. When the gallery was opened in September, 1877, the collection of works of art, the property of the Liverpool Corporation, was valued at £18,000; it is now worth from £60,000 to £70,000. The sum of £11,500 has been voted out of the surplus fund of the Corporation to enable the committee to carry out the extension of the premises.

Mr. Carl Rosa has bought the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, and the adjoining shops for upwards of £40,000. He does not at present intend to enter into negotiation with regard to the lease of the theatre now held by Captain Bainbridge, nor has he yet arranged to administer the establishment through his manager. It is probable, however, that he will ultimately make some arrangement which will enable him to utilize the theatre more frequently for representations of opera.

Mr. Abraham Hayward, the brilliant essayist, and famous dinner-out, died in London on Saturday, at the age of eighty-two. He was a barrister by profession, but though he attained to the dignity of silk and of Q.C., his tastes always lay in political and literary life, into which he entered with keen avidity. In his early life a strong Conservative he broke away from his party with Sir Robert Peel. As one of the Peelites he wrote many of the best articles in the *Chronicle* in conjunction with Sidney Herbert and George Smythe. Subsequently he became a follower of Lord Palmerston, and ultimately a strong adherent of the present Prime Minister, who with Mrs. Gladstone, recently visited their dying friend on his deathbed. For very many years he regularly contributed both to the *Edinburgh* and the *Quarterly Reviews*, although latterly his contributions were almost entirely confined to the *Quarterly*.

Saturday, February 16, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HUMPHREY CHETHAM AND THE MANCHESTER FOUNDATIONS.

(Query No. 3,385, February 9.)

[3,386.] The article in the *British Quarterly* of October, 1854, with this title, was written by Mr. E. Edwards, the then librarian of the Free Library. I think—speaking, however, only from my recollection of the article, which I have not the means of referring to—that Mr. Edwards subsequently incorporated much of his article in his *Memoirs of Libraries*, vol. 1, chap. xi, on “The Public Library of Humphrey Chetham in the City of Manchester,” pp. 623-679.

RICHARD C. CHRISTIE.

* * *

The article in the *British Quarterly Review* was written by Mr. Edward Edwards, the first librarian of the Manchester Free Library. Your correspondent will only need to be reminded that it was, after revision, published separately in 1855, under the title of “Manchester Worthies and their Foundations: or Six Chapters of Local History. With an Epilogue by way of Moral.”

C. W. S.

ANOTHER REV. ROBERT ROBINSON, D.D.

(Nos. 3,359 and others.)

[3,387.] None of your correspondents appear to know that there was another Robert Robinson (born 1735, died 1790), contemporary with the other eccentric preacher. The Robert Robinson I now bring to your notice was probably the greatest pulpit orator of that time, for when minister of the Dissenting Chapel, Cambridge, he drew vast numbers from the University who regularly attended his ministry. He was the translator of three volumes of the sermons of the great French preacher Saurin, to which he prefixed a history of the cruel persecutions to which the French Protestants at that time were subjected, together with a life of Saurin. He also translated Claude's essay on the composition of a sermon, enriched with his own valuable notes. He wrote a work on the divinity of Christ, which the highest dignitaries of the Established Church pronounced to be unanswerable, and was invited to become a clergyman of the Church of England, which, however, from principle he declined. His biographer says of him:—“He was amiable, benevo-

lent, and generous. As a preacher he was unrivalled for pure and native eloquence. In doing good and getting good he spent his life. Learning, piety, and charity have wept at his grave; and each has claimed him as her champion." His works have been published in six volumes octavo, with a life of the author by Rev. B. Flower, Harlow, 1807. Also by George Dyer, late of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. This remarkable man was evidently the Robert Robinson whom the University of Edinburgh intended to honour with the title of D.D., and not the eccentric and funny Robert Robinson of Dob Lane notoriety.

G. D.

Burnage Lane.

TATE, THE PORTRAIT PAINTER.

(Query No. 3,384, February 9.)

[3,388.] Of William Tate, Redgrave in his Dictionary says, "he was a pupil of Wright of Derby, and practised with some reputation at Liverpool in 1776; then for a time in London; at Manchester in 1787; and later at Bath. He exhibited portraits, with one or two attempts at subject pictures, at the Royal Academy between 1776 and 1802." He died at Bath June 2, 1802. In the Royal Academy exhibition of 1782 he exhibited a "Portrait of a Gentleman," No. 197, and his address is given as "W. Tate, Liverpool;" but in the catalogue of 1791 it is "W. Tate, Manchester," No. 5 and No. 175, both portraits. This is probably the man inquired after by "F. R.," though the date he gives is rather earlier. There are undoubtedly many works by William Tate in this neighbourhood, and it would be interesting to know their whereabouts.

ALBERT NICHOLSON.

The Old Manor House, Sale.

* * *

The painter of the portrait of Dr. Charles White in the library of the Royal Infirmary was William Tate. He appears to have been a native of Liverpool, and several members of his family were amateur artists. For example, at the first Liverpool exhibition in 1774, eleven works were shown by Mr. Richard Tate, of Wolstenholme Square, described as "a merchant and a patron of art in Liverpool." In all probability he was the father or brother of William Tate, who in the same exhibition had four works, two of them portraits. Ten years later, in 1784, there was another exhibition in Liverpool, and in this no fewer than nine portraits by William Tate were hung, as well as a picture of Belisarius and his Daughter.

The artist has here the letters "F.S.A." appended to his name. Then, amongst the works shown by "honorary members," are three pieces by Richard Tate, four by T. M. Tate a head in chalks by Paul Tate, and a landscape after P. Sandby by Miss Tate, all described as "of Liverpool." There was a third Liverpool exhibition in 1787, when "W. Tate, Manchester," was represented by a portrait of a girl, a group of portraits of three boys and a girl, and a picture of Abraham and Isaac. Miss Tate and T. M. Tate again appear as exhibitors among the "honorary members." It would no doubt be about this time that William Tate painted the portrait of Dr. Charles White. The Royal Infirmary also contains another portrait—that of James Massey, the first president—painted by William Tate, and presented to the institution by the artist.

J. H. NODAL.

HERBERT INGRAM AND PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

(Nos. 3,375 and 3,379.)

[3,389.] The late Herbert Ingram, the founder of the *Illustrated London News*, was formerly in business as a bookseller and stationer in Chapel Bar, Nottingham, at the shop now occupied as a shoe shop. Here he started his Old Parr's Life Pills, the profits from which enabled him to originate and establish the above-mentioned widely known newspaper. In the early days of his shop existence in Nottingham—whether before Mr. Cooke joined him or afterwards is uncertain—he was by no means flush of money, as the following anecdote related to me some years ago by the late Mr. James Sweet, of Nottingham, will show. One evening, shortly after bank hours, a man of gentlemanly appearance came into his shop, purchased some small items of stationery, and then produced a Bank of England note, or what appeared so, for £50, in payment for the same, apologizing for tendering a note for such a large amount by the plea of the necessity he was under of changing it. Most unfortunately, he said, the banks were closed, and as he was a stranger in the town, without any small change about him, he was quite at a loss for some unless Mr. Ingram would kindly change this note. Thrown off his guard by this specious appeal, Mr. Ingram did so, gave him the change, by which his cash-box was very nearly drained of all its contents, and the stranger departed. On the following morning Mr. Ingram, wanting the money, went to the bank to get it changed again, and was at once informed, to his horror, that the note was a forgery.

He then called on Mr. Sweet and asked him to step on to his shop. Mr. Sweet did so, when Mr. Ingram acquainted him with the circumstance above related, and asked him to advance him the money, offering to turn over to him the whole of the contents (consisting of new books) of one side of his shop. Mr. Sweet agreed, gave him the money, and took away the books.

I will just add a few words more about Mr. Sweet himself. He was originally a barber, and for some years carried on that business as well as that of a second-hand bookseller on the same premises. He also sold newspapers of Radical views. He called himself, on the sign-board above his shop in Goosegate, "Democratic Newsagent," and was, for some time at least, a believer in, and a thorough-going supporter of, Feargus O'Connor's Quixotic land scheme. I have on several occasions, now thirty years since, entered his shop for the purpose of purchasing a book I had seen in the window, and by so doing interrupted the process of shaving there going on. For many years, too, Mr. Sweet kept a second-hand bookstall in the Market Place on Saturdays. The above is extracted from the Local Notes and Queries column of the *Nottingham Daily Guardian*, to which it was contributed by

J. J. L.

London.

QUERIES.

[3,390.] CHARLES CALVERT.—Can any of your readers inform me if at any time during his reign at the Prince's the late Mr. Charles Calvert acted on the same night as a star?

S. J. J.

[3,391.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Can any reader inform me of the authorship of the following lines:—

I will go forth amongst men, not mailed in scorn,
But clad in armour of a pure intent.
Great duties are before me, and great aims;
And whether crowned or crownless, if I fail
No matter, so that God's will be done!

W. T. B.

[3,392.] RYNT AND RYNTY.—In Bamford's glossary to Tim Bobbin, as well as in John Corry's edition of *Tummus an' Meary*, there is the following entry:—"Rynty, stand off, probably from 'aroynt thee,' the common adjuration addressed to a witch or a demon." I wish to ascertain whether this is known, or ever has been known, as a Lancashire word. It is not to be found in the text of Tim Bobbin's work, but only in the glossary to it. Mr. Halliwell, in his Dictionary

of Archaic and Provincial Words, under Rynt, quotes it as used by Ray, states that the older form of the word was "aroint," and adds, on the authority of a MS. communication from a native of Lancashire, that "the word roint is, or was thirty years ago [i.e., about 1820], a common Lancashire provincialism." Boucher is also cited as having heard the word in Cheshire. Can anyone give any confirmatory evidence of the use of the word either in Lancashire or Cheshire?

J. H. N.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS.—The *Nonconformist and Independent* in a statistical supplement, furnishes a great deal of information, never before published in a collective form, relative to the Protestant communities in England and Wales outside the Established Church. It is shown that the ten principal denominations, viz. Baptists, Congregationalists, the various members of the Methodist family (six), the Friends, and the English Presbyterians have an aggregate of 8,996 ministers in that division of the country; 12,900 places of worship, without allowing for defective returns; and a total of a million and a half church members, which are estimated to represent 4,500,000 persons, out of a total population of 25,968,286 in England and Wales. Without attempting to furnish particulars of the internal and local resources of these several religious bodies, our contemporary has collected information as to denominational expenditure, exclusive of the maintenance of the ministry, the outlay on the building and repair of places of worship. The three principal churches are credited with the following yearly sums contributed to missions and their various societies, viz.:—Baptist, £163,763; Congregationalists, £229,024; Wesleyans, £289,902. These, with the sums set down to the United Free, Primitive and Calvinistic Methodists, the Bible Christians, the Society of Friends, English Presbyterians, and Unitarians, make an aggregate of £816,422. Adding the principal Church of England societies, the joint missionary societies, and the sums expended by the three principal Presbyterian Churches in Scotland, the total amount is nearly three millions sterling. Although no exact data are available, it is estimated that the sums yearly contributed in the way of freewill offering for general and local purposes by the several religious bodies in Great Britain cannot be less than eight millions sterling. Whether the gross amount be more or less, the *Nonconformist* considers there is abundant and reliable evidence to support the conclusion that the voluntary principle is entirely adequate to meet the existing religious wants of the various denominational organizations of England and Scotland.

Saturday, February 23, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BELL-TINKER.

(Nos. 3,373 and 3,380.)

[3,393.] The expression is common enough in Lancashire and Yorkshire, but I have always heard it used in the sense of giving a good beating: as, "I'll gie the' bell-tinker"—perhaps such a beating as the tinker gives his brass or copper. CALCAR.

RYNT, RYNTY, RYND TE, ROUND THEE.

(Query No. 3,392, February 16.)

[3,394.] This word, I think, belongs to Cheshire. A cow, fastened to its stake in the stall, in changing its position for the convenience of the milker, is told to "go round," and thus describes a segment of a circle. In some parts of Cheshire "round" is pronounced "rynd," and thus "round thee" becomes "rynty." I have heard a Cheshire man say, "come int' ire hise," for "come into our house."

WILLIAM FURNESS.

Temple Sowerby, Westmorland.

* * *

"Rynt" is used in North Lancashire, between Garstang and Clitheroe. I have often heard the milkmaids use it, but never except in the imperative mood and to a cow only. Thus, when the cow closes in upon the milker, she will say whilst pushing it away, "Rynt ta" (stand off thou). I never heard the word except in the aforesaid district. R. PARKINSON.
Pendleton.

HERBERT INGRAM AND OLD PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

(Nos. 3,375, 3,379, and 3,389.)

[3,395.] About thirty years ago I was residing in the neighbourhood of Boston, of which borough, as stated by one of your correspondents, Mr. Ingram was a native. For some months I had, as a friend and next-door neighbour, an own cousin of his, and was frequently brought in contact with many of his early acquaintance. From some of them I received the following account of his start in life, and I have no doubt of its substantial truth and correctness. His family connections were amongst the most respectable and influential people in the borough, though Herbert's father had not succeeded in life so well as the others. He served his apprenticeship there as a printer, and immediately went to Nottingham. At first he set up a second-hand book stall in the Market Place, which succeeded so well that he soon found

himself able to rent a small shop. Along with his bookselling he connected an agency for Morison's pills. Some one to whom he had sold some pills died; and the doctors, who in those days were furious in their opposition to Morison's pills, demanded an inquest, and a verdict of manslaughter against the vendor was returned. At the assizes, however, Ingram was acquitted. As soon as the trial was over, thinking a little change and rest might be beneficial, he went to spend a few days at Boston with an old uncle, who was a retired medical practitioner. One evening, after talking over the incidents of the trial, his uncle said to him, in his broad Lincolnshire patois, of which some cultured people in those days were almost as proud as a genuine Scotchman is of his brogue, "Well, Hubby (Herbert), my lad; thou's got well over this business. But I tell thee, thou mun hev no mooare to do wi' old Morison. If thou wants to go into the medical line, I can put thee up to a thing." And then, taking out of his writing desk a stock recipe for some useful aperient pill, he threw it on the table before his nephew, and said, "Theear Hubby, tak that; get it maade up into pills; call 'em Old Parr's Life Pills; puff 'em well; and thy fortune's maade." Ingram returned to Nottingham; took his uncle's advice; and started the *Illustrated London News*, as I was always told, for the sole purpose originally of advertising Old Parr's Life Pills.

I cannot now call to mind the particular individual to whom I am indebted for this story; but I know it was current amongst Ingram's friends thirty years ago. I always regarded it myself as authentic; and have many a time since repeated it as such. I may just add that I never heard of Mr. Ingram's having been in business in Manchester.

J. S.

Stockport.

CHARLES CALVERT.

(Query No. 3,390, February 16.)

[3,396.] The late Mr. Charles Calvert played on the same night as a star in November, 1869, in conjunction with the late Mr. Phelps, alternating the parts of Othello and Iago with that great actor. The circumstances were these: Mr. Phelps had been engaged to appear as Sir Pertinax Maesycophant, an impersonation of which he was justly very proud, for it was indeed a wonderful performance, and one which theatrical cronies were accustomed to remember with Dowton's Hypocrite and Edmund Kean's Sir

Giles Overreach. *The Man of the World* is, however, entirely a "one part play," the rôle of Sir Pertinax having been created, from all accounts, by one of the vainest men who ever stepped upon the boards, and it cannot be called with any regard to consistency a good play in the highest sense, possessing no element beyond the action of the main character, which in Mr. Phelps's case was instinct with life and likely to arouse the sensibilities of a cultured audience. Financially *The Man of the World* was a pronounced failure, and Mr. Phelps was induced to appear as Othello; and as the stock company then engaged at the Prince's was not over strong, Mr. Calvert magnanimously yielded to his scruples and consented to support Mr. Phelps, affording the many students of Shakspeare in this city further the opportunity of a deeper study of Mr. Phelps's powers by alternating the parts of Iago and Othello. The sequel, however, fully justified Mr. Calvert's unwillingness to appear on the same night as a star. Though placing myself in the foremost position amongst Mr. Calvert's admirers as an actor (to say nothing of his unequalled talents as a manager), I am bound to admit that he was over-weighted to a painful degree. There was a marked falling off in the number of the audience on the nights when Mr. Phelps represented Iago, and the contrast in the enthusiasm was equally so. All this was easily to be accounted for. Amongst the patrons of a theatre like the Prince's, to whom the personal appearance, acting, and elocution of their manager, favourite as he was, were familiar, tending to modify the emotions, which in the case of one less known to them might have found its vent in a wave of enthusiasm and excitement. But Mr. Phelps was more than a star in the ordinary sense of the word. He was a representative man, and was one of whom it might have been said

He hath bestowed upon our eyes
Some vanity of his heart; it is his promise;
And we expect it from him.

Mr. Phelps had had thirty years' experience in which to temper and tone down his impersonation of Othello, and had been the contemporary of those great men and women who, in the early part of the present reign, had made the stage so remarkable. He was almost the last remaining to show the present generation what those were like who delighted the former age and have left behind them a never-dying fame.

I furnish a table of the receipts actually taken at the doors, unaided by the produce of the sale of bills of the play or other extraneous source of revenue. I might say, in parenthesis, that at the rival house, the Royal, there was from November 22 a great counter attraction in the person of Mr. Sims Reeves, in English opera, who, however, appeared four times in the week only, the other two nights, November 23 and 25, the management having recourse to stock business to fill up the week:—

1889.				
Nov. 20.....	Mr. Phelps,	Othello	.....	£131 16 0
" 22.....	" do.	do.	.....	57 11 0
" 23.....	" Calvert	do.	.....	67 0 0
" 24.....	" Phelps	do.	.....	124 3 0
" 25.....	" Calvert	do.	.....	71 14 0
" 26.....	" Phelps	do.	.....	62 10 6
" 27.....	" Calvert	do.	.....	105 8 0

I ought to say, in explanation, that the prices of admission ranged very differently in those days to what they do at the present time. Theatrical managers in this town were then racking their brains how to raise the prices without offending the public, a problem ultimately solved by the late Mr. G. H. Browne, when he hit upon the plan of charging 2s. instead of 1s. to the early comers to the pit. It would be a fair estimate to apportion the excess which would in all probability have been received at to-day's prices at £55 for the largest, £40 for the medium, and £30 for the smaller houses; say an average of £40 per night.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES: ALEXANDER SMITH.

(Query No. 3,301, February 16.)

[3,397.] The lines quoted by "W. T. B." (with the three which succeed) are more correctly as follows:—

I will go forth 'mong men, not mailed in scorn,
But in the armour of a pure intent.
Great duties are before me and great aims,
And whether crowned or crownless, when I fall
It matters not, so as God's work is done.
I've learned to prize the quiet lightning-deed,
Not the applauding thunder at its heels
Which men call Fame.

They occur in *A Life Drama*, by Alexander Smith (1853), which ran almost directly to five editions, "10,000 copies of the American edition being sold in a few months" (Allibone). Mr. Smith, who was originally a pattern designer in a lace factory in Glasgow, was Secretary to the University of Edinburgh from 1854 to 1867. The book teems with beautiful imagery; and was the foundation of the

so-called "spasmodic school" of English poetry. He "flung a poem like a comet out," and the excitement amongst the critics was great. Charges of plagiarism were brought against him in the *Athenæum* of January and August, 1857, and he was hotly defended, *Punch* among others taking up the cudgels in his defence. He found "the armour of a pure intent" to be of little avail against the critics, for he was seriously and repeatedly (and almost truly) charged with being a youth of twenty. The late Professor Aytoun wrote probably the finest written burlesque in the English language satirizing Alexander Smith in *Firmilian; a Spasmodic Tragedy*. Mr. Smith published two other volumes of poems and four prose works, and died January, 1867, at the early age of thirty-seven. "His fiery soul, which, working out its way, fretted his pigmy body to decay." Here is a fair specimen of his poetry from the *Life Drama* (p. 17):—

Books written when the soul is at spring tide,
When it is laden like a groaning sky
Before a thunderstorm, are power and gladness,
And majesty and beauty. They seize the reader
As tempests seize a ship, and bear him on
With a wild joy. Some books are drenched sands,
On which a great soul's wealth lies all in heaps,
Like a wrecked argosy. What power in books!
They mingle gloom and splendour, as I've oft
In thund'rous sunsets seen the thunder-piles
Seamed with dull fire and fiercest glory-rents.
They awe me to my knees, as if I stood
In presence of a king.

J. T. K.

QUERIES.

[3,398.] A RUMP AND DOZEN.—Lying before me is a letter bearing date 1803, from one of our local gentry to another, inviting him to a dinner, the result of "a rump and dozen" laid as a wager between two friends on some matter of debate between them. I remember when a lad having heard this curious phrase used, but the exact import of it I have quite forgotten. Perhaps some correspondent can explain it.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[3,399.] AUTHORSHIP OF "APRIL RAIN."—Can any reader supply the name of the author of a poem entitled "April Rain"—lines which the inquirer had erroneously attributed to Miss Ingelow, and is

desirous of publishing as a song? The verses begin thus:—

Showers, showers, nought but showers,
And it wants a week of May!
Flowers, flowers, nought but flowers,
Are hid in the green and the grey.

E. J. T.

A NEW WAY TO SUCCESS.—M. de Lesseps, speaking at the annual meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris on Saturday last, caused much laughter by stating that on his first visit to England the publisher who brought out the report of his meetings charged, as the first item of his bill, "£50 for attacking the book in order to make it succeed." "Since then," observed M. de Lesseps, "I have been attacked gratuitously, and have got on without paying."

MANGNALL'S QUESTIONS FIRST PRINTED IN STOCKPORT.—A correspondent of the *Cheshire County News* states that *Mangnall's Questions*, one of the most popular and successful of the school books of the day, was originally printed in Stockport, and that the press of Mr. Clarke, the then leading printer of Stockport, was the means of ushering to the world a book from which more profit to the subsequent purchasers of the copyright had accrued than almost any other work of a similar kind up to that time. It found its way into every lady's school and private family in England, and for nearly forty years sustained its reputation as a book necessary in the routine of early education.

A new process for producing permanent wall paintings has been invented by Herr Adolf Keim, of Munich. It was described at the last meeting of the Society of Arts in London, by the Rev. J. A. Rivington, who pointed out that the original project for decorating with frescoes the new Palace of Westminster forty years ago was never completed owing to the destructive influence of the English climate upon these works of art. Herr Keim's invention secured to us absolute immunity from climatic influences. Paintings finished by this process had proved absolutely impervious to all tests. They would admit of any acid, even in a concentrated form, except hydrofluoric acid, being poured over them. Caustic potash had no effect, and nothing could be employed with greater advantage than this for cleansing the painting when occasion required. The expense of the process, would bear favourable comparison with that of any other. A technical commission appointed in 1882 by the Royal Bavarian Academy reported very strongly in its favour. Mr. Rivington said he saw in the solid guarantees afforded by this system the art of mural painting no longer a dream of Utopia, waiting for the labours of Smoke Abatement Exhibitions to make room for its development, but an actual reality of English art. In the course of some interesting experiments, he showed that scenery painted by the new process was unflam-
mable.

Saturday, March 1, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

A RUMP AND DOZEN.

(Query No. 3,398, February 23.)

[3,400.] In the good old days when George the Third was king, and later, there was a party of friends who dined together frequently. Their dinner consisted of a rump-steak only, with a glass of water. After dinner the serious drinking began, and the guests very frequently carried away with them their three bottles of port apiece. I expect the invitation was to a rump-steak and a dozen of port, either for host and guest between them, or for them and a couple of friends.

J. T.

* * *

A bet of a "rump and dozen" means, or used to mean when I was a youngster, a rump-steak dinner for twelve persons, and a dozen of wine to wash it down.

J. C. H.

London.

* * *

In Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* this expression occurs as "rumping dozen," and is explained as being a corruption of "rump and dozen," meaning a rump of beef and a dozen of claret.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

* * *

An old lady in her eighty-seventh year, having read Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY's Query, states the meaning of "a rump and dozen" to be, a rump of beef and a dozen of wine, and cites the following (as related by her father) in illustration:—Two Cheshire gentlemen passing through Nantwich churchyard noticed a hawk on a pinnacle of the steeple. One challenged the other to "a rump and dozen" that he could call it to his shoulder. The other being incredulous, accepted. The challenger, however, succeeded in calling the bird, and was so pleased with himself that he invited a few old chums to share his creature comforts, and a jovial time was spent. He afterwards had the hawk's likeness taken in oil, with cap and bells, a copy of which is now in the possession of a farmer on the Combermere estate.

J. C.

Bowdon.

RYNT, RYNTY, RYND-TE, ROUND-THRE.

(Nos. 3,392 and 3,394.)

[3,401.] The form in the Fylde district of Lancashire is "rynt-ta—the y pronounced long, like i in pint. It was formerly commonly used under the following circumstances:—A person in a shippon approaching a cow for the purpose of milking her, and finding her standing in some inconvenient posture, for undergoing the operation would give the cow a tap with the stool and say to her "rynt-ta, stan' o'er." "Stan' o'er" would only be necessary in case the cow was in that position which would require her to obey that command. The word or phrase is applied to persons as well as to animals. "Rynt thisel;" "they rynted their sels," and similar expressions being still in use. Several farmers' wives were standing together on a market day, when another farmer's wife came up, and in placing herself in the little circle nearly knocked down one of the others, who thus described the event:—"As hoo rynted hersel, hoo welly knocked me o'er." We for many years used a phrase which was associated with a market incident which carried a point with it, and so "rynt" fell into abeyance. We said "Square thisel up," in place of "rynt-ta" or "rynt-tha."

EDWARD KIRK.

CHANCELS IN OLD CHURCHES.

(Nos. 3,362 and 3,369.)

[3,402.] PIKELET's two-fold inquiry as to the cause and origin of the difference in the orientation of the nave and chancel of the same church reopens an old controversy among antiquaries, architects, and ecclesiastics. These ancient peculiarities are manifestly important, the architectural obliquity having been designedly made in various Christian ages and countries.

It has been said by some writers that not a single instance can be pointed to where church-tower and nave were differently orientated; and yet I knew a clear instance in the neighbourhood of Manchester (England) where the latter peculiarity of structure existed. It is necessary, perhaps, to notice this exception briefly, first, lest its former existence may, in this connection, mislead. It is not generally known that in 1866, when the interior of Bolton Old Church was stripped of organ, galleries, and pews, just before its demolition—preparatory to the erection of the present edifice—it was found that a straight line drawn through the arches in the old tower and con-

tinued eastward along the floor of the nave and chancel did not cut them into equal halves longitudinally, and on further examination the inner arch of the tower was found to be three feet nearer the north-western (inner) corner of the nave than the south-western corner. The same straight line demonstrated the further singular fact that the body of the church was set obliquely against the tower—the skew of the body being southward. In other words the orientation of the tower was different from that of the body. A few years ago, before I left the Old Country, I wrote a series of articles which appeared in the *Bolton Weekly Journal*, under the title of “Half Hours Among the Tombs,” in which I ventured to state my belief that the old tower was originally erected in accordance with the orientation of a former “old church,” and that in course of time the lately demolished old church was, early in the fifteenth century, added to the lonely and unhistorical old tower—the vestige of an earlier church upon the same site. The chancel of Bolton Old Church was of later date—an addition.

Some writers hold that anciently a chancel was orientated so that from the east window the rising sun might be centrally viewed on the morning of the feast of the patron saint; but, as differences of orientation have been found to exist in England in many churches in the same invocation, the pious idea lacks support.

Now to the question proper. As to the difference in the orientation of the chancel and nave of the same church—an architectural peculiarity prevalent in Roman Catholic countries of the Continent of Europe—it is undoubtedly symbolical. An old ecclesiastical tradition of the Church of Rome demanded that there should be a deviation of the chancel from the true east towards the north, so as to mystically represent the bowing of our Saviour's head in death upon the cross. It must be observed, however, that in England the deviation is towards the south, the difference of position being attributable to a different version of the same Christian tradition.

JOHN F. MATTHEWS.

College Avenue, New York, January 7.

QUERIES.

[3,403.] THE SUN AS TIME-KEEPER.—Which keeps proper time, a correct clock or the sun?

CHARBONNIER.

[3,404.] “WORLD'S END.”—Can any reader kindly tell me the origin of the above title appearing as the name of a beerhouse in Little Peter-street, Gaythorn?

W. H. H.

[3,405.] BOILING TO DEATH OF MARGARET DAVY. What are the facts concerning the boiling to death of Margaret Davy, on March 28, 1542, as mentioned in Whitaker's Almanack for 1881.

F. M. KENDERDINE.

Mr. John Hullah died on Thursday in last week, at the age of seventy-two. He was a native of Worcester. In the first work by which he became known he had the honour of being associated with Charles Dickens. This was a little two-act operetta or comedietta, with songs, called *Village Coquettes*, which was produced in 1836 at the St. James's Theatre, then under the management of the famous tenor John Braham. After producing two more operettas, *The Barbers of Bassora* and *The Outpost*, he devoted himself to what was to be his serious occupation in life, the instruction of large classes of pupils in vocal music. In 1872 he was appointed Inspector of Training Schools for the United Kingdom. Dr. Hullah was the author of a good many well-known songs, among which was the “Three Fishers,” set to Kingsley's words.

KISSING ON THE STAGE.—A stage kiss as a rule is a dramatic illusion. There are, however, exceptions. In the casket scene in the *Merchant of Venice*, for instance, Bassanio seals his betrothal with a “loving kiss.” “The other night,” says Miss Ellen Terry, “Mr. Terriss was the Bassanio, and just as he kissed me a very considerable titter came from the audience. My face was in a flame in a minute, and I was just ready to cry.” On reaching the flies Portia looked round, and the cause of the laughter became apparent to her. The stage cat, a magnificent and portly creature, had, it seems, coolly come in and watched the whole proceeding, and when they left she followed, apparently well satisfied. “I cannot bring myself to the kissing again, so that Mr. Terriss raises my hand to his lips instead.” The cat, strange to say, has since mysteriously disappeared.

A NEW MODE OF BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION.—

Mr. Henry Hyde, of this city, has recently hit upon a novel and attractive method of facilitating the study of trees. Taking the oak, for example, he has mounted upon a card portions of a branch of the tree, the leaf, the flower, the fruit (a couple of acorns), and two sections of the wood. The mount is enclosed in a neat frame, and covered with glass. Mr. Hyde has in this way prepared illustrations of the oak, beech, and sycamore, and is engaged upon the elm, chestnut, lime, ash, pine, hawthorn, laburnum, and other trees. Similarly he has mounted a series of typical leaves, simple and compound. As much for their elegance as their usefulness these botanical representations ought to be heartily welcomed by school and museum authorities, and we are not surprised to hear that the committees of the Manchester Art Museum and the Manchester Technical School have already ordered complete sets for their respective institutions.

Saturday, March 8, 1884.

NOTES.

THE NEW EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

[3,406.] Mr. George Earle Buckle, the newly-appointed Editor of the *Times*, is the son of the Rev. George Buckle, formerly scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and afterwards Fellow of Oriel, who for many years was Vicar of Tiverton, near Bath, and is now Vicar of Weston-super-Mare and Prebend of Wells. Mr. Buckle's father was a distinguished Oxford man, and if report speak truly has himself not been unacquainted with journalistic work, having been a frequent contributor to the well-known Church paper, the *Guardian*. The new editor is a nephew of Mr. John Earle, the Anglo-Saxon Professor at Oxford, whose name he bears. His course at the University, like his father's, was also a distinguished one. Able as Mr. Chenery was, he conspicuously failed to grip public opinion. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Buckle will do this better. I for one heartily wish him success.

CHARLES H. COLLYNS.

Sheffield.

CARLING SUNDAY.

[3,407.] Carling Sunday falls this year on the 30th of March, but to many country people it is obsolete; even the name itself is passing out of recollection. Mothering Sunday is, however, still kept up to some extent, and this is but another name for the same Sabbath Day. About this period it was customary for farm servants to have a holiday on purpose to visit their parents, or to go a-mothering; hence the name Mothering Sunday. At these visits cakes were prepared to honour the occasion, which were far more homely and nourishing than the rich Simnel which has taken their place. Furmetry, prepared by soaking wheat in the oven, then boiling in milk, and sweetened with sugar and spices, was another honoured dish, though it was far more frequently used on Christmas Day. Herrick says:—

I'll to thee a Simnel bring
'Gainst thou go a-mothering,
So that when she blesses thee,
Half that blessing thou'lt give me.

We might imagine other names according to locality had been used for this day. In the following couplet, however, the days specified are all distinct:—

Tid, Mid, and Misera,
Carling, Palm, and Pase-egg Day,

The word Carling is derived from the grey shop peas, usually sold to prepare pea-soup, which especially in the northern counties are still known as Carling Peas. These are steeped in water during the evening, and on Passion Day, are fried in butter and eaten for supper. This is generally supposed to be the derivation of the word, but in Lancashire I have heard it called Care or Careing Sunday. One is probably a corruption of the other. At Newark a fair was held annually on the Friday preceding Passion Day and recognized as Careing Fair Day; and we have a couplet often heard in Notts:—

Care Sunday, care away,
Palm Sunday and Easter Day.

A better explanation can be found for both customs and name by referring to the pre-Reformation period. Dried peas were commonly used by poor people for their food in Lent. Lady Clare, a granddaughter of Edward I., bequeathed in 1355, sixty-one quarters of beans, peas, and vetches for the season of Lent. Palsgrave also declares that parched (dried) peas were "folks' use in Lent." No doubt it was customary at one period to use peas on Passion Day to indicate the necessity of greater mortification in view of the approaching solemn Church festivals. Thus a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1786, quoting an old author, says that "the custom took its rise from the disciples plucking the ears of corn and rubbing them in their hands on Passion Day."

Hone, generally so particular when alluding to olden customs and rites, has merely a passing reference to Carling Sunday. He refers to it only when giving an account of a robbery by two footpads in 1785. He says that Carling Sunday is so called because it is the custom of the lower orders in the North of England to eat immense quantities of small peas, called "carlings," fried in butter, pepper, and salt on the second Sunday before Easter.

J. F. ROBINSON.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AUTHORSHIP OF "APRIL RAIN."

(Query No. 3,399, February 23.)

[3,408.] The author of the verses entitled "April Rain" is Mr. Robert Buchanan, but I cannot say in which of his many volumes they can be found.

E.

THE WORLD'S END AS AN INN SIGN.

(Query No. 3,404, March 1.)

[3,409.] In the elephant folio of Hogarth the last plate, said to be the artist's final effort, is "The finish of all things." A tumble-down inn, "The World's End," the sign-board of which depicts the Globe in flames, is one of the emblems of a universal collapse.

ARTHUR J. MORRIS.

BOILING TO DEATH OF MARGARET DAVY.

(Query No. 3,405, March 1.)

[3,410.] The death of Margaret Davy is thus recorded in the Chronicle of John Stow:—"The 17th March (1542) Margaret Davy, a maid, was boiled in Smithfield for the poisoning of three households that she had dwelled in." The Act of Parliament under which she was condemned to this horrible death was passed a few years previously (1531), when wilful poisoning was brought under the category of high treason and visited with this barbarous punishment. The statute was enacted to meet the case of Richard Rouse, who, "of his most wicked and damnable disposition, did cast a certain venom or poison into a vessel replenished with yeast or barm standing in the kitchen of the Reverend Father in God, John, Bishop of Rochester." In Rapin's History of England the case is mentioned in the following terms:—"During this session of Parliament (1531) one Richard Rouse, a cook, on the 16th of February poisoned some soup in the Bishop of Rochester's kitchen, by which seventeen persons were mortally infected. One of the gentlemen died of it; and some poor people that were charitably fed with the remainder were also infected, one woman dying. The person was apprehended, and by Act of Parliament (22 Henry VIII.) poisoning was declared treason, and Rouse was attainted and sentenced to be boiled to death. The sentence was executed in Smithfield soon after." The Act was repealed in the first year of Edward VI.

Hulton-street, Salford.

EDWARD NIXON.

AROYNT AND AREAWT.

(Nos. 3,392 and 3,394.)

[3,411.] The word "aroynt" has been under discussion many years, and etymologists are not by any means at one with regard to its derivation. It does not occur, we are told, in any old author except Shakspeare. Many ingenious guesses have been made respecting its origin. Toone tells us Dr. Johnson derived it from "avaunt," which word is from the French "avant," sometimes used for proceed, begone.

Toone himself ventures the supposition that it may be derived from "a route," a word made use of by the French when urging horses to go quickly, and which may have been corrupted into "aroint." "This supposition," he says, "is somewhat confirmed by the word 'areawt' being still (1832) used in Lancashire to signify 'away with thee,' and it is pronounced exactly similar to 'a route.'" In the *Lancashire Glossary*, by J. H. Nodal and G. Milner, the word "areawt" is put down as a preposition, meaning "out of doors, outside," and in this valuable Glossary examples are given of its use in this sense from the writings of Collier, Bamford, Ramsbottom, and Waugh. If any correspondent can adduce instances of "areawt" being employed in Lancashire other than as a preposition, and in the sense indicated by Toone, its identity or relationship with "aroynt" may be to some extent established. F. SILKSTONE. *Manchester.*

THE SUN AS TIMEKEEPER.

(Query No. 3,403, March 1.)

[3,412.] CHARBONNIER'S inquiry is rather vague, but I imagine the following information is what he requires:—A perfectly accurate clock (a chronometer) and the sun would keep time together if the earth travelled along her orbit at a uniform speed, and if her axis were not inclined to her orbit. As these conditions do not obtain, the sun is sometimes before the clock and sometimes after the clock, except four times a year, when they are together. HERMIT.

* * *

Of course a correct clock is right. Correct time proceeds at a uniform pace. Owing to causes which cannot be explained here the sun in its apparent motion does not travel at a uniform rate. Sometimes it is too much in advance, and sometimes it lags behind. But it is known whereabouts in the sky it would be, if its rate were uniform, and to indicate such spot astronomers suppose a "mean" sun to be there. Every good Almanac indicates the difference between this mean sun and the actual one, and it is this mean sun which regulates the time. For instance, on Saturday, March 8, we are told in the Almanac that the sun is after the clock 10min. 48sec., or that the clock is before the sun by that amount. So that when the real sun is on the meridian a correct clock will be 10min. 48sec. past twelve; or, in other words, when it is twelve o'clock by the sun, it is nearly eleven minutes past twelve by a correct clock.

J. T. S.

Saturday, March 15, 1884.

NOTES.

A COTTON BALL v. A CALICO BALL.

[3,413.] In the N. and Q. of the *Nottingham Daily Guardian*, February 27, I found the following note, respecting which I have a word or two to say:—

A LINCOLN "STUFF" BALL.—Perhaps the following reference to a "stuff" ball held in Lincoln nearly a century ago may interest some of your readers. In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1790, a correspondent writes:—Will you inform me what those stuffs are the ball at Lincoln of which Lady Banks is the patroness; and whether they are to be purchased in London? The number of the magazine for January, 1791, contains the following reply:—The stuffs, which your correspondent (vol. ix., p. 1,127) wishes to be informed about are of the species which the Yorkshire manufacturers call wild-bore tammies; the colour geranium, pitched upon by Lady Banks, as patroness of the ball held at Lincoln, October 8th, 1789. A friend of mine, who was lately in town, saw many of them in the shop windows; but upon inquiry of the drapers here I do not find that they are sold at any particular place by appointment. The annual ball, for the benefit of the stuff manufactory in Lincolnshire, was begun about six or eight years ago, at Alford, with an intention to encourage the spinning of worsted among the poor and in the houses of industry in this country; and removed to Lincoln at the time before mentioned, when Lady Banks was patroness. The following are the rules by which the ball is conducted: Ladies admitted gratis, appearing in a stuff gown and petticoat of the colour appointed by the patroness, spun, woven, and furnished in the country, and producing a ticket signed by the weaver, and countersigned by the dyer; one of which tickets to be delivered with every twelve yards of stuff. Tickets to gentlemen, 10s. 6d., who are to appear without any silk or cotton in their dress, stockings excepted. The first year the Assembly-room was so very much crowded that the stewards erected a temporary booth for the cold collation the year following, when the ball was honoured with most of the nobility and gentry of the country, 466 persons being present, viz., 252 ladies and 214 gentlemen. Lady Monson was patroness, and the ball colour a dark brown or carmelite. The Duchess of Ancaster is mentioned as patroness for this year. I have been led to this minute detail from the inquiry of the correspondent; and the more readily from a wish that so laudable an institution may be more generally known through the extensive circulation of your magazine.—J. C.

The Lady Banks referred to in the above would be the wife of Sir Joseph Banks; and the thin stuff there called tammy would be the same kind as that used instead of hair-cloth, for fine household sieves, thence called "tammies."

The correspondent of the Notts paper has doubt-

less exhumed the note from the *Gentleman's Magazine* to show the givers of so-called calico parties that the idea is no new thing. But whether the newer idea had its rise in the older, or to foster a special industry, I cannot say; but I do know, and do say, that the term "calico ball" is a misnomer, and had its origin in error.

When Alderman W. J. K. Cotton, M.P., was elected Lord Mayor of London, in 1875, he announced his intention of giving a *Cotton Ball*—a juvenile costume ball—stipulating that all the dresses, for either sex, must be made of cotton. There was no lack of diversity either of tint or material, heavy or flimsy. Velveteen, fustian, moleskin, satteen, dimity, muslin, tarlatane, printed calico, chintz, cretonne, and lace or braid for trimming. Surely there was scope enough for taste or imagination, and the result was marvellous. Lord Mayor Cotton had reason to be satisfied with his Cotton Ball, and so had his juvenile guests. Whether he was satisfied with its reporters is another thing. Nothing had been said on the placards or elsewhere of *calico* as a specialty until some journalist (evidently too young to remember the time when ladies had no reels of cotton, but only "cotton balls" wherewith to furnish their work-baskets or boxes, and consequently unable to see the pun on the Lord Mayor's name), glorified the Cotton Ball in a column of type under the heading of a "Calico Ball." Other journalists, no wiser than himself, regardless of the protests of their better-informed brethren, set the calico ball rolling, and so it has gone on rolling until the merry jest of the originator is altogether lost sight of. A calico party is narrow in conception and scope. A Cotton Ball gives a wide range of material as well as colour, and certainly should have its significance to Manchester people if to no others. Certainly it was a "Cotton Ball" to which Lord Mayor Cotton invited his young guests.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LATE RICHARD WRIGHT PROCTER.

[3,414.] My first acquaintance with Mr. Procter began about forty-three years ago, at the Poet's Corner, Long Millgate. I had been invited to an entertainment given by the Manchester literati to the talent of the country for perhaps forty miles round. I was then, however, a stranger to most of the company, and being overawed I made my way into a

rather dark corner where I thought I could see and hear without being much noticed. But I had not been there long before John Critchley Prince brought, as he said, "his dear friend Procter the Barber" to introduce to me; "he has written an excellent book called the *Barber's Shop* and several other good things, and as his tastes and yours are very similar I feel certain that when you become better acquainted you will soon become fast friends." After this I used to call occasionally at the "barber's shop" to get shaved, and then Mr. Procter and I had a good deal of chat about books and authors and passing events. On one of these occasions he told me that he was born in Salford on December 19, 1816, and that his father died when he was under seven years of age, but his mother, by great industry, contrived to get him a little schooling. Yet that would have been but very little if it had not been for the kindness of Mr. Francis Looney, who then kept a school, and he, seeing more in him than a common boy, helped him all he could.

At the time I am speaking of Procter was married and had a family of small children, some of which I used to notice; but my own health became very bad and I was advised to try a change of air. And when I called to take leave of Procter I found nearly all his children ill in a fever. When I returned, which was eleven years after, I sought him at the old place but found he had removed and given up shaving, and was then keeping a small stationer's shop and a circulating library on the opposite side of the street. When I was in his neighbourhood and had a quarter of an hour to spare I used to call upon him, and seat myself on a small form, which by its appearance I thought he had made. We used to talk of former days and about the many changes we had seen in Manchester; also of the old books or records we had either seen or were looking after. I was much pleased with his quaint simple language, delivered with a slight drawl, and also with his excellent moral character. In all our intercourse I never heard him use a word or a sentence that the most pious Christian minister would be ashamed to repeat.

He was an excellent judge of character, and always avoided anyone, however clever he might be, whose character he did not admire. I was once in the company of a man of some literary pretensions who was then editing a Manchester periodical, and I asked him if he knew Procter. He replied that he knew him but had never been able to make his acquaintance,

and said that he had frequently called at his shop for trifling articles to have a bit of conversation with him, "but when he saw me he always appeared anxious to get done with me and return to his little room behind." The next time I saw Procter I told him of this, and inquired his reason. He replied with a quiet smile, "Well, you know, we all have our likings and dislikings, but I am never so with you, am I?" It turned out that he was right. The man was not a very estimable character, and his conduct afterwards was anything but good.

Just before Mr. Leo Grindon wrote his work on Manchester Banks and Bankers he wrote to me a letter, using the name of a friend as an introduction, who, he said, had told him that I knew more of the Jones and Loyd family than anyone else living, and as he was about to write the history of the Manchester Bankers he should feel obliged for any information I could give, and would wait upon me any time I would appoint, but if I had no objection to Sunday afternoon he thought it would suit him best. Now I had no objection to give him all the information I could, but I did not like Sunday visiting. So I appointed to meet him in town on Monday morning, and when I had told him all I could remember I took and introduced him to Mr. Procter. They were strangers to one another except by reputation, but I was surprised at Procter's alacrity in offering his services. He had a good many old memoranda and directories which he took down, and by their aid we were able to fix several dates which perhaps could not otherwise have been obtained.

That Mr. Procter did leave home occasionally we know from his own writings, but I never saw him out of his house or shop except the once I have named, and practically he lived the life of a hermit. His wife died in 1867, and from that time he lived chiefly alone, excepting that every morning his son's wife came to sweep up and tidy his rooms. He was, however, very fond of children, and I have frequently seen the kind old man bending over the counter to pat the heads of children who had come for a newspaper or a pennyworth of pens or ink or paper, and inquire about their fathers and mothers. But if a boy came for a fourpenny slate and a "hap'orth" of pencil there were usually inquiries made of how many brothers and sisters he had, and then there were so many bits of pencil put into a paper, so that

they could all try the slate without quarrelling about pencils.

Procter's chief merit as an author was his careful and painstaking habit of noting down and dating everything he thought would be interesting to his readers, and then blending them together in his own peculiarly quaint and gossipy style so as to make a pleasant, readable book. If he quoted from any of his friends he was almost certain to give their name and address. In this way he introduced me to his readers in his *Gems of Thought and Flowers of Fancy*, and in his *Manchester Streets* and his *By-gone Manchester*. In the latter book, however, he said more about me than I liked. Unfortunately I was from home when he fell ill and died, and he was buried before my return, or I should have gone to see him, and have attended his funeral, and if I could have procured it I should have taken a sprig of rosemary to throw on his coffin so as to keep up old customs, and if he could have known it would have pleased him best of anything.

He died September 11, 1881, and was buried at St. Luke's, Cheetham Hill. He was followed to his grave by a deputation from the Literary Society and a good many other notables. Peace be to his memory.

ROBERT WOOD.

Broughton Place, Cheetham Hill.

QUERIES.

[3,415.] HIGH-STREET FIFTY YEARS AGO.—Were there any private dwelling-houses in High-street, City, fifty years ago—of course excluding licensed houses? W. H. B.

[3,416.] TRICYCLE ROUTE TO OSWESTRY.—What is the best tricycle route to Oswestry (Salop) from Manchester, are the roads good, and what are the best places to stay at? PREMIER TRICYCLIST.

[3,417.] "INGS."—I observe in some of the Yorkshire towns (and more particularly in Bradford) that some of the streets are called "Ings;" thus—"Hall Ings," "New Ings," "Back Ings." Can any of your readers give me the derivation of this word, or say if it has any special significance? HAL.

[3,418.] JOHN HOWARD PAYNE.—In an article of a recent number of *Chambers's Journal* on "Home, Sweet Home," it is stated that John Howard Payne, the author of it, was an American actor and playwright, and that he came to England in 1813, performed a month in London, and then went round the provinces. It would be most interesting to me and

many others to know whether he appeared in Manchester; and if so, where? HENRY SUGDEN.

[3,419.] HAN' YE ANY GREEN STUFF?—Thirty years ago this was the formal conclusion to the "bidding" to funerals in the district about Clifton. Thus, a caller went to the houses of friends with the invitation:—"So and so's berryin's on Sunday afternoon at th' Chapel in Gardens; han yo ony green stuff?" Is this still ever done, and what did it mean? I don't want any quotations from old poets as to strewing the grave with flowers and the like, but to know what was actually done. I think it was the custom for all bystanders to throw a sprig of privet or box into the grave. J. G. H.

[3,420.] THE STOCKS.—I was much interested when in Bingley, Yorkshire, recently, to observe in the main street the old wooden "stocks," apparently *in situ*, though minus the very necessary stool. I should be pleased to learn in what other, if any, English towns these relics of a bygone punishment still remain intact; and I shall feel indebted to any of your correspondents who can afford me this or any other information as to their institution and use which they may have at command. So far back as the time of the Eighth Henry a bye-law of the "Citie of Chester," having reference to vagabond mendicants, after reciting that their begging was injurious to the "pore, impotent, and indegent people inhabitinge w'tin the same citie," provides: "Th't the number and names of all indegent and nedye mendicais people shal be serched, knoune, and wrytten, and thereupon into dyvydit in xv. p'ts, and ev'y of them Assigned to and what Warde theyshall Recorte and bege w'tin the said Citie and in no other place w'tin the same. And ther names to be wrytten in a byll sett upp in every man's house w'tin ev'y Ward for knowledge to whome they shall geve ther allmys, and to no other. And if anye other p'son or p'sons coom to any man or woman's dore, or p'son to begge not having his name in the byll w'tin that man's or woman's houses, then the same man or woman to geve unto the same beggar no manar Allyms or Relefe, but Rayther to bringe or send him to the *Stockes* w'tin the same Warde, or els to delyve' him to the constable of the same Warde and he to put him in the *Stockes*, ther to Remayne by the Space of a day and a nyght." (Protection in begging is to our free trade generation somewhat of a revelation.) There must be many such interesting records of misdemeanour punished thus, which I trust may be brought to light by this inquiry. HAL.

Saturday, March 22, 1884.

NOTES.

"BRUSH BEFORE YOUR OWN DOOR."

[3,421.] To the *Yorkshire Illustrated Magazine* for the present month Mr. William Andrews contributes a paper on the old Yorkshire custom of Riding the Stang, a custom observed in the county of Durham within the last ten or twelve years, as the file of the *Durham Chronicle* would show. Mr. Andrews quotes a letter from a Mr. George Roberts, of Lyme Regis, to Sir Walter Scott, showing that in the south it was called Skimmington Riding. After telling how "about dusk two individuals, one armed with a skimmer, the other with a ladle," parade the streets attended by a crowd, and, being mounted either in a cart or upon a donkey, belabour each other with these culinary utensils, and stop before the door of a notorious wife-beater or a quarrelsome couple, he proceeds to say: "The parties who parade the streets with the performers *sweep with brooms the doors* of those who are likely to require a similar visitation." May not this be the origin of the old Lancashire retort *uncourteous*, "Brush before your own door," or "Sweep your own doorstep clean first," as an answer to a fault-finder? I think it points that way.

ISABELLA BANKS.

THE PHILIPS FAMILY AND LONGEVITY IN LANCASHIRE.

[3,422.] Some interesting Notes on the Philips family in regard to their connection with this part of the country appeared in the N. and Q. column on the fifth of January last. Your able correspondent alluded to the first Sir George Philips leaving the old house at Hollinghurst, near Stand, in Whitefield, to reside at Sedgeley Hall, about the year 1812. The fact as stated, though well known to some very old residents in the locality, seems to have passed into the realm of traditionary lore to many who may have often seen the old house or hall at Hollinghurst, which I have known for over fifty years. I recently had the pleasure of calling to see if any trustworthy testimony could be gathered on the spot relative to the place or its early history. The result of inquiries made at a cottage adjoining the hall were conclusive, as the tenants of the above cottage are three spinsters, who informed me that it was sixty-nine years since the then George Philips, Esq., left to go to live at Sedgeley Hall, as they all well

remembered. No wonder that it was so, as their united ages at the present time amount to 250 years. They are worthy three of the ten children of Mr. Abel Wolstenholme, of Hollinghurst, who died in 1850, aged seventy-six; his wife, Sarah, died aged eighty-seven. Three members of the family died aged respectively 88, 84, and 62 years. The seven survivors are aged respectively 88, 85, 82, 80, 74, 72, and 70 years. All the above ages are taken from the family register.

J. JACKSON.

Besses o' th' Barn.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

TRICYCLE ROUTE TO OSWESTRY.

(Query No. 3,418, March 15.)

[3,423.] There are two good routes to Oswestry, and it is difficult to say which is the best—the first by Altrincham, Northwich, Chester, Wrexham, and Ruabon; the second by Altrincham, Northwich, Tarporley, Whitchurch, and Ellesmere. Both are about equally direct, and by both the roads are good. I should say the second route is the fastest, but by the first the scenery is certainly more attractive. I know nothing much more lovely than the views from the Dee bridge between Ruabon and Chirk—one side facing the famous aqueduct and the other looking up the Vale of Llangollen. The following are a few hotels on both routes; PREMIER TRICYCLIST must choose his own stopping places:—Northwich, Crown and Anchor; Chester, The Blossoms; Wrexham, The Lion; Ruabon, The Wynnstay Arms; Tarporley, The Swan; Whitchurch, The Victoria; Ellesmere, The Bridgewater Arms. W. BINNS:

JOHN HOWARD PAYNE.

(Query No. 3,418, March 15.)

[3,424.] John Howard Payne appeared at the Fountain-street Theatre in the early part of the year 1814. At that time he was a very handsome young man of about twenty-one years of age, and was known as the American Roscius. The characters represented by him were those usually associated with the name of Master Betty, such as Young Norval in Home's tragedy of *Douglas*, the part in which he made his first appearance at Drury Lane (June 4, 1813). "Home, Sweet Home," was first sung in Manchester in the year 1824 by Miss M. Tree, in *Clari*.

RICHARD R. ROBERTS.

* * *

Payne, a young actor whose celebrity on the

American stage had been "unequivocally confirmed by his success at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane," appeared at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, for the first time on the 7th of March, 1814, in *Barbarossa*, and stayed here a fortnight playing in *Romeo and Juliet*, Colman's *Mountaineers*, Home's *Douglas*, and *Tancred and Sigismunda*. ARTHUR J. MORRIS.

ROSEMARY, OR HAN YO ANY GREEN STUFF?

(Note No. 3,419, March 15.)

Down with the Rosemary, and so,
Down with the Baies and Mistletoe.

HERRICK.

[3,425.] I can find but little reference to this popular cottager's plant in any work on Folk Lore, though it is extensively used on St. Agnes's Eve to obtain a view of the future lover by the fair sex. A sprig of Thyme and a sprig of Rosemary is sprinkled with water and placed one in each shoe, on opposite sides of the bed, when, if St. Agnes is propitious, the maid will see her husband in a dream coming to gather the Rosemary. It was either customary or fashionable, I know not which, to dip the Rosemary branch in lavender or rose water before presenting to the guests, and, when the people could afford, it was richly gilded. "So late as the year 1693," says Brand, "the old country use seems to have been kept up of decking the bridal bed with Rosemary, and the bridesmaids were accustomed to present the bridegroom with a bunch of it on the morning of the wedding." Roger Hacket, in a wedding sermon preached in 1607, remarks: "Rosmarias, the rosemary, is for married men, the which by name, nation, and continued use, man challengeth as properly belonging to himself. It overtoppeth all the flowers of the garden boasting man's rule. It helpeth the braine, strengtheneth the memorie, and is very medicinable for the head." Perhaps this sermon gave origin to a common proverb, "The grey mare is the better horse." Such at all events is the saying applied to this plant, for it is said only to grow in gardens where the proverb is applicable.

Why a plant so very generally used at funerals should also be popular at wedding festivals I know not:—

Grow for two ends, it matters not at all,
Be 't for my bridal or my burial.

Dekkar tells of a bride who died of the plague on her wedding night; thus, "The Rosemary that was washed in sweet water to set out the bridal, is now yet in tears to furnish her burial." Herrick speaks

of "gilding the Baies and Rosemary," and in fact these plants were both worn at weddings by the guests as well as on other festive occasions. Thus, in an account of the memorable Parliament in 1640, we read that Prynne and Burton "rode with rosemary and baies in their hands and hats, which is generally esteemed the greatest affront that ever was given to the Courts of Justice in England." We have also Deering's testimony that on the election of a new mayor at Nottingham, it was customary to place the mace on a table covered with a black cloth, "covered over with rosemary and sprigs of bays, which they term burying the mace." In the churchwardens' account of St. Margaret's, Westminster, 1647, one item is, "Paid for Rosemarie and Baies that was stuck about the Church at Christmas, 1s. 6d."

It is, however, in its reference to funerals that we have most to do with Rosemary. The practice, now so fashionable, of buying expensive wreaths to lay on the graves is only another and perhaps more elegant form of what was once so common, of placing sprigs of Rosemary on the coffin as the minister was reading "Earth to earth, dust to dust;" or just after the conclusion of the service and before the grave was filled up with earth. Hence, in doing their best anyhow to honour the dead, we do not wonder at the question, "Han ye any green stuff?" if for nothing more than to testify their faith in man's immortality. Speaking to an old man upon this subject, I asked him if his fine Rosemary shrubs (upon which he formerly prided himself) were still living? The reply was characteristic:—"No, they are not wanted now; things have undergone a great change since I was a young man; they are fonder now of crosses made wi' artificial flowers at berryins." The old man, to my knowledge, once sold a large quantity of rosemary for funerals. Other plants might also have been used, though I cannot remember such in central Cheshire.

I have heard it remarked that the use of wreaths, as now, is merely a revival of the olden custom of hanging up garlands in the parish churches. This may be so, though we can scarcely see the connection. It was customary until within the past few years for two persons, generally near relatives, to be "bidders," i.e., they went round the village and invited all who were friendly, at the same time leaving a sprig of rosemary if they were well to do; if not, they were importuned in a kind manner, or asked if "they had any green stuff."

I find an explanation in Evans's *North Wales* as a reason why rosemary is employed:—"Rosemary signifying that though the body was dead, yet, like plants, it would revive (again); that the soul, like evergreens, was immortal, on which seasons make but little change."

With fairest flowers,
Whilst summer lasts and I live here, Fidele,
I'll sweeten thy sad grave; thou shalt not lack
The flower that's like thy face, pale primrose; nor
The azur'd harebell, like thy veins; no, nor
The leaf of eglantine, whom, not to slander,
Outsweeten'd not thy breath.

JAMES F. ROBINSON.

THE STOCKS.

(Query No. 3,420, March 15.)

[3,426.] In the old-fashioned village of Tong, about six miles to the south-west of Leeds, may still be seen a relic of the "good old times," the Stocks, in good preservation; though, like the example at Bingley, it was minus the stool. It is a double pair, and thus would accommodate two persons at one time. It is situated on one side of the entrance to the church, and on the other side is the old mounting-block, once such an important item. The whole village has a very old-time look about it, and, although in the midst of a densely-populated manufacturing district, it is quite free from any of the hideous sights one would naturally expect to meet with in a place so situated.

R. H.

Fulneck, near Leeds.

* * *

I may tell HAL that I can remember very well, as a child, the Stocks being used in Hampshire; and I can also well remember the names and features of some people who very often were compelled to use them in my native town. No such thing as a "necessary stool," though, was ever provided; the occupants had to sit on the ground; and I've very often seen a bundle of green rushes (which were forty years ago constantly kept by every cottager to put on their floors) placed under some unfortunate; or sometimes a bundle of hay or straw. Once I remember a blacksmith—in front of whose shop the old Stocks then stood (next to where the ancient "lock-up" was)—brought his shoeing-box and placed it under a woman named "Patty Churcher;" and I also remember the wiggling he got from the magistrates for doing so, and his being threatened with the same punishment if he so interfered again. This must be forty years ago. Soon after these stocks were condemned and removed, and

a new set, more elaborate, and painted white, were provided; and these were also more inconvenient, being higher and fixed to a moveable frame. They were used only on market days—alternate Mondays—and were removed from the police station when wanted (the new stocks and the new police station came at the same time) to opposite the market hall. My grandfather, father, and myself having served the office of high constable of the hundred, and my uncle being the magistrates' clerk, I had many opportunities of seeing and hearing many queer things regarding the Stocks, and so on, in those early days.

What I want to come to, though, is—Do any of your readers know of a pillory existing now? I have an indistinct recollection of one existing in our town, in a back yard somewhere, which I can remember that either I always imagined, or had been told, was a gallows, which, of course, it was not. I have kept, as you will see, the enclosed cartoon from *Punch* for nearly twenty years on purpose to ask about it some day. Now HAL reminds me. My remembrance is of two uprights though, not one only, and I believe the same frame was used for a whipping-post. It has not been used for forty-five years, and I almost think it was in the belfry tower of the church or the clerk's yard where it was kept. The town is an ancient one, and petitioned to be absolved from sending members to Parliament in the reign of Edward VII.

H. G. B. T.

* * *

Anent the query about the Stocks in your paper last week, on Sunday morning I went across country about four miles to divine service at Mobberly Church. I knew that the Stocks could be seen there a few years ago, and I wished to see whether they were still in existence. It was a glorious morning, one of those days when one can live and not merely exist. My path lay through a gently undulating part of Cheshire, past cosy farmsteads and neat cottages, with gardens brilliant with daffodils. In the heart of the fields I passed a small burying ground, enclosed by four low walls, and filled with tall slender trees. The dates on the few grass and moss-covered stones now visible date from about 1680 to 1780. This naturally set me thinking of the England of that time, but as I passed on I was soon aroused to the life around me by the glorious songs of the larks singing in the blinding sky. I reached the venerable church as the bell ceased to toll, but before I entered I examined the Stocks. They are close

to the churchyard wall, on a bank by the roadside. They are in good preservation, with room for the feet of two culprits, and also with two iron fastenings for the wrists on one of the upright posts. The seat, however, is wanting. It takes one back to the past to attend service at Mobberly Church. The old pews still keep their places, and three square boxes, one over the other, accommodate respectively the clerk, the reader of the prayers, and the preacher. On one of the tablets I noticed that an ancestor of the present rector, the Rev. George Mallory, is described as a Fellow of Christ Church, Manchester. What is the meaning of this? On a former visit of mine to the church the rector pointed out a curious brass inserted in the wall, the purpose of which I now forget. The worthy gentleman also drew my attention to an epitaph in the graveyard, which I give for the benefit of your readers:—

Bereaved of life, here is laid,
ELIZABETH SIMCOCK, a virtuous maid.
A Mary for Piety, a Martha for Industry,
A Dorcas for Dexterity, a Diana for Chastity
Born at Dubb'd Hedge in Mobberly.
Interred Feb. 22nd, 1760.
AGED 87.

Left 50 pounds to the poor.

VIATOR.

Wilmslow.

* * *

About thirty years ago the Stocks were still to be seen in perfection—lock, chain, and bar complete—at the village of Ripponden, near Halifax. At that time I was a student at a boarding school called Making Place Hall, on the hill at Soyland above Ripponden, presided over by the genial William Dove, of lamented memory. The school was then regarded as an earthly purgatory, but in the light of maturer years as a paradise. When there I saw the Stocks at least every Sunday when going to church. Being at that time foolishly fond of carrying a large bunch of keys, I on one occasion tried a likely key on the lock which was in the chain fastening the Stocks. Being rusty there was very little movement but still encouragement and the surreptitious application of oil when the solitary constable was away, produced the desired result—we could unlock the Stocks. The secret was kept among a chosen few, as we intended to place in the Stocks a wild young shaver who got drunk every Saturday, although not by any means a senior boy. Poor fellow within two years he met his death in China as a midshipman of Her Majesty's ship Barracouta. We were not able to place young hopeful in the Stocks, but had better

fun, as the wakes came on, or, to speak correctly, "Ripponden Thump." The great day of the "Thump" was Sunday, a regular carnival—shows, boxing, booths, dances, everything, going on as lively as week day or more so. Of course we school boys were forbidden to go, but a chosen few choice spirits broke bounds, and risking everything went to the "Thump." We strolled about and enjoyed ourselves much, having the pleasure to see one of our tutors who should have been on the look out for us quietly smoking his pipe in a snug bar parlour. An erratic genius in our party, always ready for a lark, spied a drunken gipsy, and at once called out to me "Billy, have got your keys?" "Yea." "Then we'll clap him in the Stocks." No sooner said than done. The "bobby" was away, and the luckless gipsy was placed in durance vile. Of course we made tracks, but, after dropping the key in the river, returned and amused ourselves, lad-like, along with others in pelting him with mud. A friend of his came along and began to comfort him by telling the Stocks as a punishment were done away with. "They couldn't do it." The poor fellow replied, "But they han done it." As no key could be found the policeman had to break the chain to free him. The actors in the case were of course found out, but the fun of it so took our dear old pedagogue's fancy that he overlooked all and let us go scot free.

I have no doubt HAL will still find the Stocks at Ripponden, near the church.

KESYS.

Bury.

QUERIES.

[3,427.] PRICE OF BREAD AND POTATOES.—Can any reader say whether bread in the city of Manchester has been fourteen pence a four-pound loaf and potatoes half-a-crown a score? If so, in what year or years?

ARTHUR SWAIN.

[3,428.] THE OLD MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—In the correspondence and memoir of Benjamin Robert Haydon by his son, published in 1876, a letter is given from Haydon to his wife dated Manchester, April 9, 1844, in which he says:—"I had established here, as you know, a school of design, with the figure as the basis. Some time since, again influenced by those obstinate ignoramuses in London, the council here allowed itself to be persuaded to abolish the figure. The young men behaved admirably well. They met together, subscribed, and continued the figure privately, and waited for my coming

down. Now that I have arrived here they have brought me their drawings, which are admirable for their accuracy, breadth, and finish. . . . If the young men only remain sound, and continue to draw the figure, those gentlemen in London will one day be brought to acknowledge their error." Can any one give the names of the "young men" to whom Haydon here refers?
ELTON.

[3,429.] GSETTES LAND.—I remember, some years ago, being asked if I could suggest any reason why the name "Gessets" or "Gesettes" was given to a particular estate or farm situated between Poulton and Bispham. As the modern word "gazette," being derived from "gazzetta," a small Venetian coin, threw no light on the subject, I was unable to suggest even a probable etymology. On recently reading Mr. Seeborn's new work on *English Village Communities*, I find, at page 137, the following, which seems satisfactory:—"It has been shown that the Saxon thane's estate or manor was divided into thane's inland or demesne land, and geneat land or gesettes land, answering to the land in villenage of the Domesday survey. . . . 'Gesettes land' etymologically seems to mean simply land set or let out to tenants." In Bosworth's Anglo-Saxon Dictionary I find:—"Geneat—neat-man. One holding or enjoying land for service or rent, farmer, husbandman, vassal, associate, servant. Land, land granted for services or rent. Riht, a husbandman's right." Again I find:—"Gesettan. To set, appoint, allay, settle, populate, replant, possess, put, expose, constitute, sanction, provide." Can any of your readers point to a similar survival of the old Anglo-Saxon term?

CHARLES HARDWICK.

Talbot-street, Moss Side.

CHARLOTTE BRONTE AS "CURRER BELL."—The late R. H. Horne was present at that first dinner party given by Mr. George Smith, the publisher, when Currer Bell, then in the first flush of her fame, made her earliest appearance in a London dining-room. She was anxious to preserve the anonymity of her literary character, and was introduced by her true name. Horne, however, who sat next to her, was so fortunate as to discover her identity. Just previously he had sent to the new author, under cover of her publisher, a copy of his *Orion*. In an unguarded moment Charlotte Brontë turned to him and said "I was so much obliged to you, Mr. Horne, for sending me your" —but she checked herself with an inward start, having thus exploded her Currer Bell secret by identifying herself with the author of *Jane Eyre*. "Ah, Miss Brontë," whispered the innocent cause of the misfortune, "you would never do for treasons and stratagema."

Saturday, March 29, 1884.

NOTES.

GOYT OR MERSEY, WHICH?

[3,430.] Can any of your readers, literary or scientific, declare with some authority what is the proper name of the river from Compstall to Stockport? Your able and genial contributor "J. M." calls it the Mersey, but you, in an answer to "An Anxious One," March 8, say it is the Goyt. Surely it is not creditable to allow this confusion to remain. Dr. Heginbotham's *Stockport, Ancient and Modern*, 1882, describes it as the Mersey, see page 13 (Roman Roads), as follows:—"From this point, it (the road) proceeded to the river side, crossing the site of the present Tiviotdale Station, to the ford, through which it passed to the Cheshire side of the river. The position of this ford was about sixty yards below the junction of the Tame with the Mersey, and about two hundred yards above the place where now stand Lancashire Bridge." Probably Dr. Heginbotham is a good and sufficient local authority to decide this point, and you will note he says the Tame joins a river which is already the Mersey. This view is also borne out by all the maps I have been able to look at, beginning with Speed's map of Cheshire, 1610, and a map of the County Palatine of Chester, from actual survey, in the year 1819, by C. Greenwood, London. These two authorities not only call this particular five miles, or so, the Mersey, but continue the name to the river of the Longdendale Valley. Thus arises another query, viz., at what time and how did this Longdendale river obtain a separate name, Etherow? Would Mr. Grindon be kind enough to say why he calls that particular reach the Goyt, when all modern authorities name it the Mersey? The only reason I can find for it is in the fact of Goyt Hall, or, as Speed has it, Goithall, being a residence on its right bank. This hall having the name it has may have been the cause of the confusion of names—having the name of one river whilst standing on the bank of another. Perhaps the highest general modern authority is the Ordnance map, which, as you know, gives the name as the Mersey.

RAMBLER.

Collyhurst-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ROSEMARY.

(Nos. 3,419 and 3,425.)

[3,431.] It is related by Margaret Roper, the daughter of Sir Thomas More, that her father concluded a garden discourse, he held with her, after this wise:—"As for rosemarie, I lett it run all over my garden walls, not onlie because my bees love it, but because it is the herb sacred to remembrance, and, therefore, to friendship; whence a sprig of it hath a dumb language that maketh it the chosen emblem at our funeral wakes, and in our buriall grounds."

ISABELLA BANKS.

* * *

I was told about thirty years ago by an old lady born in the parish of Eccles that she well remembered that at the funerals in Eccles Churchyard each person attending the funeral carried a sprig of Rosemary (to use the old lady's own words) "in a piece of fine writing paper, and, at the conclusion of the service at the grave, each person dropped their Rosemary and their tear on the coffin."

C. H. R.

Old Trafford.

"BRUSH BEFORE YOUR OWN DOOR."

(Note No. 3,421, March 22.)

[3,432.] The note by Mrs. LINNÆUS BANKS on "Brush before your own door," recalls to my recollection the curious old custom of Riding Stang which I have frequently witnessed, within the last thirty years, in my native village in the North Riding of Yorkshire. The performers used some doggerel rhymes, which they altered from time to time to suit the names and condition of the unhappy couple to whose unfortunate dissensions such publicity was given. The last time I saw a Stang Riding was on the occasion of a quarrel between the village cobbler and his spouse, which had terminated in the son of Crispin throwing a handful of salt into his wife's eyes. The main object of the custom was to hold up quarrelsome couples to ridicule, and thereby prevent breaches of domestic peace; but, although the doggerel was repeated in various parts of the village, I have no recollection of "the sweeping with brooms before the doors of those likely to need a similar visitation."

G. H. B.

Moss Side.

THE STOCKS.

(Nos. 3,420 and 3,426.)

[3,433.] The ancient town of Poulton-le-Fylde still retains the stocks, although they have been renewed within recent years. At this place also may be seen the whipping-post and market cross. Moral castigation would appear to have been dispensed on a liberal scale in this good old town, as until the beginning of the present century it rejoiced in the possession of a ducking-pond and cuckstool. Thornber, in his *Historical and Descriptive Account of Blackpool and its Neighbourhood*, a work published by Smith, Poulton-le-Fylde, in 1837, says:—"A few are still living who remember the remains of the chair which was fixed over the cuckstool at the Breck, a kind of machine in which scolds were placed and ducked in the water to cool the warmth of their temperament and to stay the exuberance of their tongue." Describing the *modus operandi*, he says:—"The stool or chair was placed at the end of a long pole balanced on a pivot, and suspended over a pond of water, into which the offender was ducked."

Gay, in his poem, *The Shepherd's Walk* (third pastoral), says:—

I'll speed me to the pond, where the high stool
On the long plank hangs o'er the muddy pool;
That stool the dread of every scolding quean.

The stocks are by no means so rare as HAL's question would imply. They may be seen in the pleasant village of Lymm. Here they adjoin an ancient cross, the steps of which are cut out of the solid rock. This structure is an object of considerable archæological interest, and far surpasses in attraction the subject of this note. If I remember rightly I saw in one of my rambles stocks near the church at Grappenhall. A friend of mine informs me that stocks are also in existence at Hollins Green and at Arley.

With regard to the story by your correspondent KESYS anent the man whilst in the stocks being informed that they could not do it, I fear this remark is lacking in originality. Many are the stories which have been told of men having been put in the stocks for fun, but they are like bear stories, not remarkable for accuracy.

THOMAS DUTTON.

Holly Cottage, Lymm.

* * *

There are some stocks at High Leigh, at the foot of a fine tree at the bottom of the hill on the road leading from that place to Warburton. I have been

told by an old inhabitant that they have been in their present position for about forty years. About that time the road was diverted, and they were removed from their former place beside the cross at the top of the hill. At the same time the cross was moved into the hall grounds. They have not been used for fifty or sixty years. They are in suspiciously good condition, stone posts and the wood and iron work being alike in a perfect state. I cannot help thinking they must have been entirely renewed when they were removed, which was probably in 1843, as that date is cut in large characters on one of the posts.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

* * *

I well remember a pair of stocks being in frequent use some twenty-five years ago in Coventry. They were placed in front of the lock-up, adjacent to the butter market. There was a broad oaken seat on which the delinquent sat. In cases of emergency and when the stocks were in great demand, they would only put one leg in, and in this way I have seen four culprits paying the penalty of their crimes at the same time.

In answer to H. G. B. T., some three or four years ago I attended a sale of live stock at Coleshill, a quaint, clean, old-fashioned market town in Warwickshire, and having some half an hour or so to spare, I sauntered through the streets. My attention was arrested by what I took to be an old broken cross, which upon nearer inspection proved to be a pillory. There was a large hole in the centre for the head, and one small one on each side for the hands. As near as I can remember it was approached by six stone steps on each side, with a stone platform on the top upon which the pillory was fixed and the culprit stood. This was in the centre of the market, on one side of which stood a quaint old butter market. CONVENTRE.

* * *

Before the days of the county constabulary it must have been no unusual sight to see some poor unfortunate with his feet "fast in the stocks" exposed not merely to the "proud man's contumely" but also to the mocking laughter—and oftentimes worse treatment—of the unpitying mob. One would like to know exactly in what way this punishment was meted out. Was the torture endured in the wooden embrace of the stocks regarded as the equivalent of our "five shillings and costs or a fortnight's durance vile?" Or was it looked upon

merely as a sort of premonitory cuff administered by the strong arm of the law before handing over the culprit to justice and the nearest gaol? Also it would be interesting to know if this ancient, but happily obsolete, form of public penance was peculiar to this country?

From the numerous examples still existing it would appear that each English town and village possessed one of these picturesque engines of torture, and used them too, if we may judge by the excellent state of repair in which many of them remain. The best preserved specimens, as might be expected, are to be found in rather out-of-the-way villages; few towns now possessing, at least in situ, these once indispensable adjuncts of civic authority. I append a short list of some local examples, those marked with an asterisk being in almost perfect condition:—

Budworth	*Mobberley
*Grappenhall	*Lymm
*High Leigh	Ringley (near Bolton)
*Downham (Pendle)	Poulton-le-Fylde
Rochdale	*Macclesfield
Marple	

The stocks at Macclesfield are constructed entirely of iron, and are now preserved in the public park.

In the course of certain lengthy rambles through the principal English counties I have only met with one specimen of the pillory, and that is, I believe, still preserved in front of the town hall of Coleshill, Warwickshire.

JAQUES.

HAYDON AND THE OLD MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

(Query No. 3,428 March 22.)

[3,434.] Your correspondent ELTON wishes to know the names of the Students referred to in B. R. Haydon's letter to his wife, dated 9th April, 1844, and whom Haydon likened to "the early Christians." If ELTON will refer to the Memoir of Warwick Brookes written by his friend Thomas Letherbrow, and which appeared in the *City News* between the 26th August and the 9th September, 1882, inclusive (a copy of which is in the Free Library), he will find in page 10, the names of seven of those students, and in the following pages, a brief account of their (too short!) intercourse with Haydon, and of the work which they carried on among themselves with untiring zeal for the following six years. Of those "early Christians" who sat at the feet of the great apostle of art, four still survive, viz.,—R. Crozier, George Hayes, Sam Mayson, and T. Letherbrow,—

and cherish a warm admiration for the memory of the discoverer of the greatness of the Elgin marbles. Mr. Crozier was the last man of whom Haydon took leave in Manchester, and as his memory has lost no word of the conversations they had together, he could give some amusing details thereof, if his modesty did not stand in the way. **MASSACCIO.**

* * *

The names of the young men whom Haydon refers to were: W. Brookes, Francis Chester, Robert Crozier, Edward Benson, Frederick Tavaré, George Hayes, Sam Mayson, Thomas Letherbrow, and a few others. *In Memoriam: Warwick Brookes*, reprinted from the *Manchester City News*, August 26, September 2, and September 9, 1882, says: "The committee, however, was not satisfied, and in the end the life-class had to be discontinued; but its chief members determined it should be carried on, and accordingly formed a society and established a class of their own in an attic over Rose's china shop in King-street." And then follow the names given above.

FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

INGS.

(Query No. 3,417, March 15.)

[3,435.] This old word dates from the Danish occupation of most of Yorkshire and other North Sea-bound shires. Bailey gives it as a Lincolnshire term. "Hall Ings" were once the Hall Meadows; "Back Ings," back meadows; "Greening," green meadows. "An Ing," says Bailey, is "a meadow or low ground, a common. Danish, Ing."

J. SPENCE HODGSON.

Altrincham.

* * *

Ing or Ings as a termination to the names of towns and places is by no means confined to Yorkshire, for in the little county of Bedfordshire the terminal applies to upwards of sixty places, whilst there are over fifty each in the counties of Kent and Huntingdonshire, but in the whole of Lancashire we cannot count a score. We can, however, substantiate the old rhyme which runs:—

In Ford, in Ham, in Ley, in Ton,
The most of English surnames run.

The terminal Ing was used in early English times to denote the son of a person, and Ings plural meaning the sons or family of a person; as, for instance, the family of a person called Bill would be designated Bill-ings, and the locality in which the family originally settled would ultimately acquire

the name of Billing. Hence the founders of these names were the original settlers in families or clans, as the Scotchmen call them—Ing being synonymous with the Scotch "Mac" or the Irish "O."

R. SHEPHERD.

Cheetham.

[Ing is the old word for meadow land in a low-lying situation, and was mostly, if not always, applied to land subject to occasional overflowing. Ihre says *Eng* is a flat meadow between a town and river on which a market or fair is held; which, says Brockett, is an exact description of the Ings on which the great fortnightly cattle fair is held at Wakefield. Mr. SHEPHERD, in his Note above, mixes up two different sets of derivative names, and introduces confusion. The "ing" or "ingas", from which the place-names he refers to are derived, is a word of another meaning than the "ing" under consideration.—ED.]

QUERY.

[3,436.] JOHN HILL, THE ARITHMETICIAN. — Can any correspondent give some account of John Hill, and where one of his arithmetics can be seen?

ABRAHAM HOLDEN.

MR. PIDCOCK.—A correspondent (A. Crone) writes that "Mr. Pidcock, the flautist, is still alive, and resides at 4, Fraser Road, Higher Crumpsall" Mr. C. P. Stone also writes: "Mr. Pidcock is still living, and I think in better form than ever. I heard him play on Thursday, March 27, my son accompanying him on the pianoforte."

Mr. Clement L. Wragge, well known for his exertions last year in connection with the Ben Nevis Observatory, has established himself near Adelaide, and has fitted up an observatory, where he will carry on certain planetary and solar work in conjunction with an elaborate record of meteorology.

A NEW SCHOOL EXPERIMENT.—Apropos of the agitation against home lessons in board schools, the curious community at Bedford Park are just establishing a school. The school hours, instead of being from nine to twelve and two to five, are from 9 30 to 12 30, with an afternoon class for the preparation of home lessons by those children whose parents wish it. Those scholars who return in the afternoon will have no home work. Parents who do not wish their children to return in the afternoon are earnestly requested to see that they do not spend more time over their lessons than the children in school, that they have no extra help, and that they never work in the evening. This system has been adopted upon medical advice after careful inquiry. The medical advice is that home lessons, when they are wearisome, are injurious to children under twelve if they interfere with afternoon play. Experience shows that the education with less strain, though not so wide, is sounder and more productive of what the Germans call "mind-stuff" than the older system.

Saturday, April 5, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

INGS.

(Nos. 3,417 and 3,435.)

[3,437.] Has not this word some affinity with the Anglo-Irish word "inch," so often met with in the place-names of the sister island? The Gaelic "inis" is cognate with the Welsh "ynys" and the Armorican "enes." As Dr. Joyce points out in his *Irish Names of Places*, this word "inch" is applied in all parts of Ireland to the holm, or low flat meadows lying along a river. "The Inches" is quite a common term in Scotland also, where, as in Ireland, the word is often found in combination with proper names—say, as in Inch-Keith. As all the European tongues have a common origin, it seems probable that the word "Ings" is closely akin to the Gaelic "inis," as they have evidently the same meaning, viz., flat meadow-land near the mouth of a river, formerly a delta, but through which the stream finally directed the course of its waters, thus depriving it of its primary title to an island ("inis") whilst still retaining the name.

RATHMORE.

GOYT OR MERSEY.

Note No. 4,230, March 29.)

[3,438.] In reply to your correspondent RAMBLER, allow me to say that when, in 1866, I was writing my little book *Summer Rambles*, being very anxious to be accurate in regard to the above names, I applied to my late much-lamented friend Mr. R. M. Shipman, one of the distinguished legal firm known at that time under the style of Sale, Worthington, and Shipman. Mr. Shipman then resided at Bredbury Hall, very near the rivers under consideration. With his accustomed kindness he undertook to determine the matter for me, and after a while showed me various documents and written communications, sufficient to satisfy an acute and patient lawyer versed in such inquiries, that the Mersey commences, as stated on page 41 of the *Summer Rambles*, not at the confluence of the Etherowe and the Goyt, but where the Goyt is joined by the Tame. Allow me to refer your correspondent to the work in question for other particulars. "J. M.," accordingly, is in error; so is my good friend Dr. Heginbotham. That Speed possessed no accurate knowledge of the river nomenclature of the district is shown by his continuing the name of Mersey into the Etherowe. Greenwood, a Londoner,

who probably had no local knowledge, would seem to have copied Speed, and the Ordnance would seem to have followed suit. I am sure that Mr. Shipman was convinced of the accuracy of what he told me. Would that he were with us still to bear his own personal testimony!

LEO H. GRINDON.

Manchester.

PRICE OF BREAD AND POTATOES.

(Query No. 3,427, March 22.)

[3,439.] Mr. Arthur Swain inquires whether bread in the city of Manchester has been fourteen pence a four-pound loaf and potatoes half-a-crown a score; and, if so, in what year or years. My wife reminds me that we paid 2s. 6d. per score for potatoes (when living in Rusholme) in the years 1846 and 1847.

WILLIAM FURNESS.

Temple Sowerby.

* * *

Mr. Swain should refer to Bamford's *Life of a Radical* and Prentice's *Recollections of Manchester* for information as to the price of provisions during the Regency, and previous to what has been termed the Peterloo Massacre.

XIPHIAS.

* * *

I copy the following from a book of my grandfather's:—The year 1799 was a remarkably wet summer, and on the 17th of August there was a great flood. That night, as a Wilmslow coach was returning from Manchester on the other side of Cheadle Bridge, it was carried over into the meadows. The horses were lost, but the coachman saved himself by getting on the coach and sitting there until morning. This year we finished shearing on the first of October 1799. In the year 1800 we finished shearing on the fifth of August. This was at John Cheetham's, Withington. This year flour was 7s. 6d. per dozen, meal 5s. per peck, barley flour 3s. 6d. per dozen, potatoes £1. 1s. and £1. 3s. per load.

JOHN ROBINSON.

Levenshulme.

[Miss Martineau, in her *History of the Peace*, 1816-1846, says that at Michaelmas, 1800, the quarter of wheat sold for 128s. Before the harvest of 1801 the quarter of wheat had risen to 177s., and the quartern loaf had reached the fearful price of 2s. within a halfpenny. Ed.]

ROSEMARY.

(Nos. 3,419 and others.)

[3,440.] Supplementing Mr. James F. Robinson's interesting reply to the query of "J. G. H." on the above subject, I beg to add what little I know as to

"what was actually done" with Rosemary at funerals. About four or five years ago, at Denton, a young lady, a highly respected member of the village church choir, died; and many friends were invited to the funeral. This funeral I thought at the time to be typical of what I might call a good old-fashioned burying. Most of the members of the local Choral Society (of which our deceased friend was the leading treble) marched in procession to pay a last tribute of respect to one whose sweet voice could delight us no more. Every guest was, at the house, invited to take a glass of wine and a funeral biscuit and served with a spray of Rosemary, which was placed in our button-holes. The ladies wore theirs in their bosom. After the service was over, we each took a last look at the coffin and then threw our spray of Rosemary thereon. This is the only instance that I have seen in which this interesting and old-fashioned custom has been observed. I am not aware that any member or friend of the family went round to ask the question "Han yo any green stuff?" but surmise that the herb was purchased from one of the numerous herb growers, which are yet to be found in this busy part of South Lancashire, and who pride themselves upon their profound knowledge of the many virtues of herbalism.

Notwithstanding "J. G. H.'s" practical admonition that he "wants no quotations from old poets," I cannot refrain from quoting what that quaint and plaintive poet Henry Kirke White has to say in his "Ode to the herb Rosemary." In the first verse he says:—

Sweet-scented flower,
Who art wont to bloom on January's front severe.
Then in the next verse he comes direct to the case in point:—

Come, funeral Flower! Who lov'st to dwell
With the pale corse in lonely tomb.

Well may this "sweet-scented flower" be called the emblem of Immortality, when after the chaos and barrenness of winter, it blooms forth again "in January's front severe," thus exemplifying in its fresh vigour the resurrection of the life to come, after the apparent death and decay of the previous season.

H. B.

C.-on-M.

* * *

Permit me to confirm the old lady's recollection of the old-world custom at Eccles named by your correspondent "C. H. R." When a boy, almost fifty

years since, I was taken to the place of my birth in Glossop dale to be present at the funeral of an aged relative, and what took place on the occasion made a lasting impression. As visitors arrived from far and near they were presented within the porch of the grey stone farm-house each with a sprig of rosemary (the ends of which were wrapped round with white paper), and cake with spiced drink was offered. In the "parlour" the old dead yeoman lay, confined on a bed, near which was seated the bereft widow, to whom the funeral guests in turn paid their respects and looked for the last time on the form of their old neighbour; and, strange custom! most of them laid on a plate a contribution in coin, presumably in aid of funeral expenses, though poverty on the part of the recipient was not an element. It was said to be a custom on the mutual aid principle. Soon the minister arrived, the coffin was closed, prayer and praise were offered—the latter to the grand old minor tune St. Mary's—and the cortège left the hamlet for the parish church, two or three miles distant. The rosemary was carried thither and cast upon the coffin at the end of the service. Emblematic of immortality and remembrance, how much more simple and affecting than the present luxurious and costly exuberance at funerals of frail hot-house flowers. Rosemary, of course, being evergreen, could be got all the year round, and was grown in almost every garden; but now its disuse is so complete that the leading nurserymen in our Market Place are unable to supply a specimen of it. So it appears simple and true sentiment is superseded by meretricious ornament.

This departure from old ways is conspicuous in another respect, for before liberationism and ritualism were invented, it was the custom in the hamlet referred to (it being two miles from a place of worship) for the ministers of the church and chapels (Independent and Wesleyan) respectively to hold a weekly service in the large kitchen of the farm-house named before, and in turn conduct this mission, without which the aged and infirm would have had no spiritual instruction whatever. All this is changed now, and "religious equality" with a difference is the modern equivalent. LLANUHC.

* * *

Poor mad Ophelia (*Hamlet*, act 4, sc. 5), while in imagination strewing her father's grave, says:—"There's rosemary for you: that's for remembrance. Pray you, love, remember."

E. EDMONDS.

THE TRUE ORIGIN OF MOTHERING SUNDAY.

(Note No. 3,407, March 8.)

[3,441.] Carling Sunday, a north of England name for Mothering Sunday, kept this year March 30, is a designation new to me, and one that seems now to have died out even in Yorkshire. Mr. Hone derives it from small peas, which Mr. Robinson informs us were customary diet amongst the poor that day and throughout Lent, but on other days in Lent the peas were eaten dry and parched, while on this day it seems their cooking was varied, and a tasty dish was indulged in—"being fried in butter, pepper, and salt, immense quantities of 'carlings' were eaten the second Sunday before Easter."

I write to raise inquiry about the original derivation of Mothering Sunday. Long before Mothering Sunday suggested going to visit at a distance a near relative—a mother—it meant the day for providing money for the use of the mother church of the diocese. A farthing was collected from every house for this purpose; and, a good sum being thus raised, it nominally went to maintain the altar expenses and fabric repair fund, but sometimes was diverted and conceded for a time by order of the bishop to help forward some expensive church building work elsewhere. North's account of St. Martin's Church, Leicester, refers (page 143) thus to this old custom:—The smoke farthings collected in this town would be called Lincoln Farthings, Leicester being then in that diocese. From the Register of William Alnewick bishop of Lincoln (folio 48), it appears that the farthings from "our faithful lieges of our archdeaconry of Leicester, instead of being applied to the use of our mother church of Lincoln, were granted and a special commission (*anno* 1440) was ordered to receive and pay them for the construction of a campanile (bell-tower) to St. Margaret's (not Martin's) Church in Leicester. A writer in *Notes and Queries*, first series, ii. 345; ix. 513, says that the same custom prevailed within the diocese of Ely, and that churchwardens collected this tax from every house, which was called Elie farthings or smoke farthings. Mr. North gives entries from St. Martin's Old Register recording receipts of such money, viz., "4 and 5 Philip and Mary, rec. in lyncolne ffarthyngs at Whytsontyde iii^s x^d ob." On the strength of this particular entry he says that the farthings were collected at Whitsuntide. But all could not be paid in directly they were due, and there is other evidence

to show Mothering Sunday was the Sunday the mother-church's claim was made, the precedence being granted to it before the claims of the local clergy's in Easter. It was till recently a custom for communicants belonging to Chapels of Ease in the large parishes of Lancashire to go and communicate at the old parish church, perhaps miles away, it being considered and treated respectfully as their mother church. I strongly suspect this custom sprang directly from the ancient general recognition in this way of the cathedrals as mother-churches, where churchwardens at least regularly went and presented the farthings due as offerings from their respective parishes.

J. GODSON.

Ashby-Folville, Leicestershire.

QUERIES.

[3,442.] MR. PIDCOCK, THE FLAUTIST.—Can any reader inform me whether the noted flautist Pidcock, who played at the Theatre Royal some twenty years ago, is still alive?

MUSICUS.

[3,443.] CHESHIRE LEGEND: THE SEVEN SISTERS.—Can anyone tell me if there is a supposed foundation for the legend or story about the Seven Sisters, and the seven trees so called which stand near Knutsford?

C. M.

[3,444.] BRADLEY, ARTIST.—I have in my possession a portrait which was painted, I believe, by an artist of the name of Bradley, probably about the year 1800—certainly not later than 1810. This painter was obviously not the well-known William Bradley. I should be glad to learn something about him, and also where there are any other specimens of his handiwork that are accessible to the public.

W. C. W.

THE PRICE OF DAVID COX'S PICTURES.—Probably no one would have been more surprised than David Cox at the price obtained on Saturday last (£2,677) for his Church at Bettws-y-Coed. Some five-and-thirty years ago three of his now most treasured works changed hands for 110 guineas. Their purchaser (from a dealer) kept them twenty years, and then sold them at the handsome profit of 1,250 guineas. Some ten seasons back the drawings in question—The Green Lanes, The Vale of Clwyd, and The Hayfield were proved, even at that largely-enhanced price, to have been an investment of the first water. After exhibition on a public easel, they respectively realized under the hammer no less than £1,470, £1,627, and £2,950. In about a generation their value thus advanced from £115 to £6,047. Probably the Church at Bettws-y-Coed passed from the hands of the artist at a ridiculously low sum.

Saturday, April 12, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE CHESHIRE LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SISTERS.

(Query No. 3,443, April 5.)

[3,445.] The legendary story of the Seven Sisters was told by the late Rev. Henry Green, of Knutsford, in the course of his interesting lectures on Knutsford: Its History Past and Present, delivered in the court-room of the manor twenty-six years ago. The following extract is from a newspaper report of the lectures:—

Our legendary lore of Knutsford and its belongings will be pretty nearly exhausted by one other mythic tale. Not far from the place in the road beyond Toft, where an American oak and a finger-post mark the turning point to Lower Peover, is a well-known clump of Spanish chestnut trees. Of these trees there are seven—the Seven Sisters; and a few years ago they furnished the subject of a pretty ballad-like legend, *The Seven Sisters, written by One of Eight, for the Restoration of Lower Peover Church*. The tale relates that the lord of a stately hall had long sighed for an heir “to dwell with him in his dim old house.”

And every year, as it passed away,
Had left him a daughter fair;
But of what use were the girls to him,
When they only made him swear?
And loud he swore as each daughter came
That her only dower should be,
Not a division of his fair lands,
But only a noble tree.
And so he planted a sapling green
For each of his daughters fair;
And a goodly group they did appear,
For seven fair maids they were.
And each fair maiden she grew apace,
Full beauteous to the sight,
And the trees and maidens both were called
The Seven Sisters bright.

An heir is at length born, and all the father's care and fondness are centred upon him; for at his birth an ancient weird had uttered against him a fearful prophecy.

But each of these sweet sisters seven
They loved their brother more,
Because he was their only one,
And much love to them he bore.

Almost at man's estate the heir travels into foreign lands, and is expected back at the ancestral hall. The very evening arrives, the evening of a summer's day, when bright eyes look out for him; but a fearful storm rages, and at the very moment when the noble youth reaches the trees which, in his anger, the father had

planted, the fatal prophecy is fulfilled, and the flashing fire from heaven strikes him to the earth.

And each fatal tree was stain'd with gore
And so was the bloody earth;
And the same night saw his dreadful death
That first beheld his birth.

So the tale closes, mournfully:—

The seven sister trees may still be seen,
Though the mortal ones are fled;
And none of that fated house were left,
When the squire himself was dead.

The story is also told as above in the volume on Knutsford which Mr. Green published in 1859, in the chapter on ancient customs and legends.

R. K.

Altrincham.

HAYDON AND THE OLD MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

(Nos. 3,428 and 3,434.)

[3,446.] In response to the invitation of your correspondent MASSACCIO, I send the following particulars of Haydon's last visit to Manchester. Haydon delivered two courses of lectures in Manchester. the first in 1837 and the second six in 1844. The first series resulted in the establishing here of the School of Design, which for a time was supported by local subscriptions, but afterwards an annual grant was obtained from Government subject to certain conditions. After a few years, in consequence of some restrictions in the Life Class study, we, seven or eight of Mr. Bell's old students, retired from it, and at Mr. Benson's studio in King-street formed what was known as the King-street Living Model Class. We afterwards rented another room and continued our study there for several years. Amongst ourselves also we formed a society known as the “Roman Bricks,” and held monthly meetings for a period of twenty-two years. The qualification for admission to membership was that of having been a student under J. Z. Bell.

When Haydon gave his second course, as zealous students in art we attended his lectures, and were charmed not only with his subject but also with the man. At the close of his fifth lecture Mr. Spencer, a director, at my request kindly introduced us to Haydon. A very short explanation served to make us acquainted, and he remarked that if he had us in London he could turn us to account and make money out of us. I went to see him at his lodgings in Piccadilly, at the house of a widow named Payne, whose husband was lost in the Rothsay Castle in the

Menai Straits. Haydon claimed to be an early riser but I was at his lodgings before he was up. He appeared in a square-cut, short, white linen jacket, and each morning went straight to the shutter of the window, observing that he liked to regulate the light to bring it as near as he could to that of his own painting room. On my first visit, after some talk, he asked if I were a teetotaller, and on my replying "no," "well then," said he, "perhaps you may be willing to take a glass of wine with me." This coming from the man whose name was posted on the walls in Manchester as Benjamin Robert Haydon, historical painter, of London, and accompanied by kind words, was to me a pleasure never to pass out of memory. He said, "You come to me a stranger. I know little or nothing of you excepting that you have studied under J. Z. Bell, and you show me your drawings and also those of your fellow-students. I like them and can tell you that you are a devilish clever fellow, and further I may tell you, that for the last three years and a half, no circumstance has occurred to give me so much pleasure as meeting with you, as it recalls to my mind my first meeting with poor Jackson (viz. Jackson, R.A.). Go on with your work as you are, make and save money, and then try to do better; master the joints, and I can tell you that judging you by your work you will, some day, do something that will astonish the public. I say this from observing the feeling you show for truth and accuracy, and further I may compliment you on the fact that you have got entirely rid of the coach painter. I find no trace of it in your work." He carefully went over each drawing, dwelling on qualities to be commended or taking exception here and there to what he thought must have been defects in the model. He said "Give my kind compliments to Warwick Brookes," whose work he greatly admired. Haydon said he had been a full month from home, and he was therefore anxious to return to his family in London. His autograph, which he wrote for me, is dated April 8th, 1844; his address on the lower edge, 103, Piccadilly, Mrs. Payne's.

On Friday, April 12th, the subject of his lecture was "Decoration." I had called on him on the morning of that day, and he gave me a note to Henry Day, honorary secretary, Cooper-street Mechanics' Institution, requesting him to allow me to hang up the drawings Haydon had selected for his lecture. Of these drawings seventeen were by me, the rest by

others, and he expressed his regret he could not show more of our Life Class studies. The next morning I called on him early, as he had to leave for Liverpool. According to promise he looked in at our King-street Living Model Class, with which he was much interested, and seemed especially taken with Francis Chester, whose head was like that of an old Italian painter. Haydon took up Chester's palette, and, speaking of his own arrangement of colours, promised to send it to us from Liverpool. This he did, and I have it now in my possession. On the back is written "For the United Society of Manchester Artists, B. R. Haydon's palette." On driving off to the station in Liverpool Road he leaned out of the window, and waving his right hand, called out "Good bye, Crozier, good bye. Work hard!"

He used to lecture in a brown coat buttoned up to the throat. His spectacles glistened as he looked up at his audience, as if the glasses were very convex. He was exceedingly sprightly in manner, and from his first words "Ladies and Gentlemen," he carried his audience with him. To hear him lecture was an intellectual treat. His power of sketching on the black-board with white chalk was tremendous, as he knew the forms by heart. At one of his lectures he had two soldiers, to exhibit the muscular development, and each went through the broadsword exercise, the distance from the audience being first carefully measured. Haydon was thoroughly at home in explaining the general structure of the human figure as contrasted with that of the brute creation. He was a striking feature in English art. His memory deserves to be revered, and it may well be said of him that "We shall not look upon his like again."

ROBERT CROZIER.

PRICES OF FOOD.

(Nos. 3,427 and 3,439.)

[3,447.] I send the following contribution to the Notes in the *City News* respecting former high prices for provisions. I find in an old book of our firm's under date of 1812 the following prices:—Flour, 118s.; oatmeal, 102s.; salt, 76s., all per load. Loaves 2s. each, sugar 10s. a dozen lbs., and two entries of saltpetre, apparently 16s. a dozen lbs. In 1817 the prices were nearly as high, and for years there are frequent entries of salt at 4s. per dozen. Present prices are about as follows:—Salt, 2½d. per dozen; bread, 4½ per 4lb. loaf; oatmeal, 25s. per load; and flour, 26s. per sack, as against 118s. per load, which

is about equivalent to 138s. per sack. The quality of all these articles is probably much better now than then, certainly it is in flour, and yet the price has fallen 112s. a sack. A chance entry in this book records the house rent as £10 a year. The house is still standing, and I should think it is now worth ten to twenty times as much. The load of flour was then worth more than the half-year's rent of a large house, and would probably be worth as much as an acre of good land. Farmers and corn dealers must have had good times of it in those days. Their profits are probably less now than in any other trade, and yet the superior respectability of the business seems to induce a constant supply of workers to provide cheap food for the people.

FLETCHER MOSS.

THE AUGHTON PUDDING.

(Query No. 3,336, December 22, 1883.)

[3,448.] Since asking this query, I have received the following information from the Rev. T. P. Rigby, vicar of Aughton-in-Halton, near Lancaster:—"An old man, aged nearly ninety, formerly residing in Aughton, and now at Bolton-le-Sands, remembers well the occasion of the first Aughton (pronounced Afton) pudding. His two uncles, by trade wand-weavers (basket makers) introduced into the village the practice of boiling willows or osiers, in order to make them capable of being peeled at other times of the year than sap time. A large oblong boiler was made for this purpose, and when first set up was inaugurated by the cooking in it of a huge plum pudding of a ton weight. The old man aforesaid partook of this dainty. The ceremony has been repeated three times, at intervals of twenty-one years, the last being in January, 1866. It has, therefore, no halo of antiquity, nor is it connected with any tenure of lands or manor like the Dunmow Flitch, in Essex. The expense is met partly by subscription and partly by the sale of cuts from the pudding. As the trade of basket making has now entirely left Aughton, the holding of another festival may prove but a peg whereon to hang a holiday and its festivities."

E. and J. L. Milner of the *Lancaster Guardian*, have sent me Johnson's *Handbook of the Lune Valley* containing the following lines by the late William Sanderson of Lancaster. They give a detailed description of this "whacking pudding." We at least know the origin of the monster, whilst that of the

Dunmow Flitch and the Bury Simnel, perhaps, derive an added charm from the obscurity of antiquity's mist.

THE AUGHTON PUDDING.

Robert Burns of the haggis hath sung,
Most proudly hath chanted its praise,
And around it a glory hath flung
Which none but his own muse could raise;
Now of Aughton's brave pudding I sing,
Which was unto thousands a treat,
All the haggises Scotland could bring
Not a moment could with it compete.

Sing hey, then, for Aughton's brave pudding,
For Aughton's brave pudding sing ho!
In the spring time when roses are budding,
To Aughton we'll all of us go.

There were raisins and currants and figs,
Sugar, almonds, plums, lemons, and spice,
All the choice of what came in three brigs,
For its cargo each brig going twice.
When all these were properly mixed,
There was poured in a hogshead of rum;
On the cask-head this label was fixed:
"From Jamaica on purpose 'tis come."

For ten days five fat bakers toil'd,
A-kneading the flour into dough,
Which was in a wand-boiler boiled
Just a fortnight to make it enough.
This pudding was twenty feet long,
Six thick, and just eighteen feet round;
A dozen young men stout and strong
Could scarcely raise it from the ground.

It was borne in processional train,
On the table with music was placed;
Since the days when King Arthur did reign
Such a pudding no table e'er graced.
It with pitchforks when done was got out
From the boiler in which it was boiled,
Whilst the people did joyously shout,
Till loud echoes from each hill recoiled.

On its outside those carving it stood,
Like harpooners on back of a whale;
And the hundreds cried out "O, how good!"
Who did on its contents regale.
The carvers with turf spades the pudding did cut,
And when all the feasting was o'er,
In two handcarts the remnants were put,
And given at each poor man's door.

Then round went the soul-stirring cup,
The moments did merrily pass,
The fiddlers their best strains struck up,
As each lad took his favourite lass.
May thy glory, O Aughton, ne'er fade;
But to finish my song I must haste,
The next time the pudding is made,
I hope I may be there to taste.

J. SPENCE HODGSON.

Altrincham.

QUESTIONS

[3,449.] **TINKER'S MAP OF MANCHESTER.**—A map of Manchester was published or engraved about the year 1760 by Tinker, but I cannot find it mentioned in the list of maps I have at hand. I have a distinct recollection of seeing the map, and of being told it was a reliable one. Can anyone give me some information respecting it or the said Tinker?

CHETHAM.

[3,450.] **EUCLID.**—In a note upon Definition 10, Book ii., of Euclid's Elements, Robert Simson, in his edition of Euclid published in 1767, the year before his death, complains of it as an interpolation, says that it ought to have been put in the form of theorem, and rejects it altogether as "not universally true." In Commandin's translation of Euclid the Definition stands thus:—"Equal and similar solid Figures are such as are contained under equal Numbers of similar and equal Planes." Are Simson's criticisms upon it just and satisfactory? **MORGAN BRIKLEY.**

THE GORILLA IN PARIS.—The young gorilla, not four years old, who was claimed to be the only genuine gorilla ever brought to Europe, all the pretenders being only chimpanzees, died in the Jardin des Plantes a few days after its arrival.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. BRIGHT.—The London correspondent of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* (Mr. Joseph Cowen's paper), writing on the debate on the Reform Bill on Monday night, says: "The difference between Mr. Bright and Mr. Gladstone is remarkable. Mr. Gladstone's speaking powers get better as he gets older. He has delivered two speeches this session that will rank with anything he has ever done in Parliament. I never heard him, and I do not think I ever heard any man, double up an opponent so completely as he did Sir Stafford Northcote on the vote of censure. His speech in introducing the Reform Bill was a magnificent effort too. He is an older man than Mr. Bright, and, in addition, is weighted with the heavy responsibilities of office. He has not the natural oratorical faculty that Mr. Bright had when he was at his best, but certainly his powers have not been diminished by age or by labour. Mr. Bright, on the other hand, has perceptibly receded. His opinions also do not show that elasticity and versatility that Mr. Gladstone's do. Mr. Bright's views are crystallized; they are much the same as they were thirty years ago. Mr. Gladstone's expand with the times and with his years. Whatever men may think of the Prime Minister's doctrines, and however they may dissent from his policy, he is beyond dispute the most striking character in political life in this country."

NOTES.

BULLOCK SMITHY, NOW HAZEL GROVE.

[3,451.] In the article on the Cheshire Highlands by "J. M.," which appeared in the *Manchester City News* of April 5, reference is made to the change of the name of the village of Bullock Smithy to that of Hazel Grove. The latter name was adopted in consequence of an objection by a freshly-appointed agent or steward of the then Lord Vernon, owner of the Poynton and Worth Collieries in the immediate neighbourhood. This agent, Mr. Thomas Ashworth, brother of the late Henry and Edmund Ashworth, of Turton, near Bolton (both of whom took a prominent part with Richard Cobden in the Corn-law Repeal agitation), went with a new wife, a Miss Christy, to reside at Poynton, the nearest post to which was Bullock Smithy; and, naturally feeling a repugnance that his letters, mostly from persons of high status, should be dated and addressed in that uneuphonious name, agitated for a change of the name of the said village, and ultimately succeeded in inducing the present name to be adopted. A day was set apart for proclaiming the new name of Hazel Grove, and a procession of the inhabitants of Bullock Smithy and adjacent places, and of the colliers of Poynton and Worth, took place, attended by bands of music. The new name of Hazel Grove was proclaimed at every approach to the village, and that of Bullock Smithy discarded henceforward. I lived in Macclesfield at the time, and perhaps twelve months or so after walked from that town through Hazel Grove to Stockport, and noticed the stone in the wall with letters cut in it, "Village of Hazel Grove" *only*—a new stone as far as my memory serves, and which is probably correct, as being the new name. Why the figures 1796 appear now I cannot divine. The new name was at once universally adopted, and is still retained, the working people pronouncing it Hazzel Grove.

I knew the family of Ashworths, their father "Old John Ashworth," the sons John, Henry, Edmund, and Thomas, the latter Lord Vernon's steward of that day. He married three times, firstly a daughter of Mr. Thomas Christy, of the celebrated hatting firm; secondly Sophia, daughter of the late Jacob Bright, and sister to John Bright, M.P.; and thirdly Alicia, daughter of the late Colonel Nichols, who, I believe, still survives.

SENEX.

The West Moors, Knowle, Warwickshire.

[Some interesting notes on Bullock Smithy and its change of name, by Mrs. Linnæus Banks and other correspondents, appeared in these Notes and Queries during 1878, and are reprinted in the First Volume. The year 1836 is there given as the date of the change of name, and Mr. Richard Hays is mentioned as the chief promoter of the alteration. It is possible that Mr. Ashworth was the real originator of the proposal and the prompter of Mr. Hays.—ED.]

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

TINKER'S MAP OF MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,449, April 12.)

[3,452.] The occupation of surveyor and valuer has been carried on by me and my progenitors in an unbroken line for three or four generations before the Thomas Tinker spoken of lived. I should be happy to show CHETHAM the original plan of Manchester made by Thomas Tinker, or I would sell him a printed copy of the same. This plan shows a front view of the Old Exchange, and a perspective of Christ's Church and St. Mary's Church.

THOMAS TINKER.

Gorton Road, Reddish.

GOYT OR MERSEY.

(Nos. 3,430 and 3,438.)

[3,453.] I notice that Mr. LEO GRINDON defends his original statement as to the Mersey beginning at the junction of what he calls the Goyt and the Tame, and not at the junction of the Etherow and the Goyt. His defence is a perfectly fair one and his authorities good. His authorities are not so good, however, as to be entirely unquestionable. I will give my reasons for thinking so. I think it is laid down as an invariable rule that when two rivers meet the lesser one loses its name, and the new river, as I may call it, either gets a new name or it retains the name of the larger one of the two out of which it has been formed. Applying this rule to the case in point, I should say the Etherow has at least a one-third larger volume of water than the Goyt. I have for thirty years been intimately acquainted with both the rivers, and known them well from their source down to Watersmeet at Compstall. The Ordnance Survey were undoubtedly right in beginning the Mersey at the junction of the Etherow and the Goyt. I am quite aware that some of the natives of the district retain the name of Goyt below Watersmeet, and I can quite understand it. The valley of the Goyt—or Windybottom as the old people call it—and Compstall Valley are both, so to say, one neighbour-

hood, both peopled by the same people, and having the same interests for generations back; whilst the Etherow flows from a sort of terra incognita; it comes swiftly but silently down a steep, dark valley with woods on each side, and has an altogether mysterious look. The Goyt and its banks are familiar and homely. It is well known as it comes sprawling down past New Mills, Strines, Marple, and Compstall. But the Etherow coming from the wild and unknown moorlands of Woodhead and Tintwistle nobody knew anything about.

J. B. E.

THE STOCKS.

(Nos. 3,420, 3,426, 3,433.)

[3,454.] Business engagements some sixteen years ago took me to an antiquated town in Lincolnshire—Crowland Hey—near to Peterborough and Stamford. On a bright May morning, going through the Market Place, I heard a troop of children cheering and jeering, and to my surprise I saw a pair of stocks with two men in them. But unlike all other stocks these were on wheels, and a burly policeman had them in charge and wheeled them from one public-house to another, stopping at each door. Whilst a question was asked from the policeman "The culprits seem dry, is there any reason why they should not have a pint?" He replied that he did not see any objection, and I have reason to believe that when they came out of the stocks they would not be altogether sober. They had been committed from Stamford by the magistrates for being drunk and disorderly. These stocks were quite new ones.

WILLIAM GRIFFIN.

* * *

On Whit-Friday last I saw in the coach-house at the Rectory, Ashton-upon-Mersey, a pair of stocks made of wood with iron wheels, and in good condition. Can any correspondent give their age, and say when last used, and if they belong to the parish?

S. TATTON.

* * *

At the village of Slyne, three miles north of Lancaster, the stocks are still standing. At the village of Bolton-le-Sands, four miles north of Lancaster, the stocks about twenty-five years ago were one of the features of the village. They were placed in a commanding position on the Crosshill, and facing two public-houses. A farmer who had "overstepp'd the line" one night was placed in durance vile, and in a fit of rage next morning he took his team of horses and dragged them out of

the ground. They were never refixed, but I believe they formed a prominent feature at a fifth of November bonfire.

J. B. SHAW.

Lancaster.

QUERIES.

[3,455.] THE MANCHESTER OBSERVER.—Will any of your readers tell me something about the newspaper, the *Manchester Observer*, published, I believe, in or about 1820; and if one William Thompson was the editor, and what became of it and him?

G. H.

DORE.—The world is becoming familiar with Dore, the starting-point of the proposed Dore and Chinley Railway. It is a quiet little village near the moors, and at present it has a small station on the Midland main line. But Dore has a history. An event which Green, the late lamented historian, calls "the making of England," took place at Dore more than one thousand years ago. There, in 827, Egbert having united the midland and southern Saxon kingdoms under his sway, had arrived in his march against the Northumbrians. Then it appeared that even in those rude times wisdom did sometimes prevail. Peace was made. The Northumbrian thegns met Egbert at Dore, and accepted him as their overlord. That was a memorable day, and gave Dore a place in history. It is quite possible that but for the invasion of the Danes, who began about that time to invest our coasts, England's great start in the race of civilization might have been traced to the peaceful compact made at Dore.—*Railway Official Gazette*.

ALCOHOL EXPERIMENTS WITH PIGS.—Men of low intellectual endowment with a taste for strong drink will derive much comfort from the result of one of the latest experiments which the French Temperance Society has been making on the alcoholization of pigs. The experiments, which were begun in 1879 on a number of pigs of the so-called Anglo-Chinese breed, have been continued ever since. Each pig was kept in a separate sty, but twice a day they were all fed together in an adjoining yard. Alcohol was mixed with their food, and after each meal they all fell into a deep sleep, but showed no signs of excitement, except now and then a slight muscular trembling. The difference of the effect of alcohol on human beings and pigs is believed to arise from the smallness of a pig's brains, for the larger the brain the more dangerous the effect of intoxication. Hence, although the companions of St. Anthony may occasionally indulge in their taste for juniper, they are in no danger of being attacked by delirium tremens.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Saturday, April 26, 1884.

NOTES.

HENRY JAMES BYRON.

[3,456.] It may interest your readers to know that the grandfather of this popular author and actor was a native of Stalybridge, and that he was a physician of great repute and undoubted talent. James Byron Bradley, M.D., did good service in the Peninsular wars, and afterwards was a well-known lecturer in the Paris Hospitals. Very much to his chagrin his grandson went before and ministered to the footlights. I think it was not until he had obtained a great success that H. J. Byron was forgiven by his relatives. I remember him as a handsome lad of nineteen, burning with ambition, and feeling within himself the divine afflatus. His grandfather had settled in Buxton to end a life of labour with an age of ease, when his grandson, H. J. Byron, paid him periodical visits. It was at Buxton that H. J. Byron wrote his first play, *The Boots at the George*, a lively little love farce, the scenes of which were laid in Corber Wood Walks, then (1853) just laid out. His first literary "flutter" was also made in the columns of the *Buxton Herald*, under the title of "The Bilberries of Buxton." But, years after (1871), he again tried a Derbyshire play, the scenes of which were in Ashwood Dale. He applied to the writer of this note for views of the scenery, so as to have everything correct. Unfortunately the play was a failure, and only ran about four nights. The Londoners had not nous enough to understand Derbyshire jokes and characters. A year or two afterwards H. J. Byron said, "I never yet wrote a successful piece in the country. All my good work has been done in London."

THORNCLIFF.

Buxton.

OLD HISTORICAL NAMES AND TITLES.

[3,457.] It is not uninteresting to read the various accounts given in newspapers and other publications concerning families having historical associations, principally connected with the British peerage. This week I came across an answer to a correspondent in a publication having a great sale, and it is as follows:—"In answer to an American correspondent: The name of Fraser is probably of Scotch origin. A great many claim to be descendants of the Lord Simon Fraser Lovat, who was beheaded in 1747." There

never was a "Lord Simon Fraser Lovat." The name and title of the nobleman who suffered in 1747 was Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat. The identical block on which he and the other Scotch lords were beheaded is shown at the present day in the Tower at London. This Lord Lovat had two sons only, both succeeding to the title, but they dying without issue the barony and estates went to a cousin, the father of the present peer.

An illustrated newspaper, which is generally correct in its statements, states that the late Earl of Seafield was the representative of the Ogilvies, whereas the Earl of Seafield only represents a younger branch of that ancient and renowned clan. The Earl of Airlie is the chief of Ogilvy, and he is twenty-eighth in descent from the first who assumed that name from the name of the estate given him. The Earldom of Seafield was granted to a branch of the house of Airlie, and it appears strange at the first sight that the Earl should be head of the great clan Grant. This is not the only case where the old Scottish names and titles are somewhat mystifying. The chief of Grant having married the daughter of Ogilvy, Earl of Seafield, their grandson (Francis William), through the terms of the patent of creation, became sixth Earl of Seafield, and was father of the James Grant-Ogilvy, late M.P. for Elgin and Nairn, who succeeds to the Earldom through the death of his nephew Ian Charles. The estates not being entailed the Earl, Ian Charles, for family reasons, willed them to his mother, but that lady has given an undertaking that the old Grant estates shall not be alienated from the house of Grant.

We have now the head of the great house of Douglas as Duke of Hamilton, one of the Douglas's having married the heiress of the then Duke of Hamilton, and, through the petition of his wife, obtained the title of Duke. The present Duke and his brother are both without male issue; therefore according to the peculiar limitation in the patent of creation of 1643 the Earl of Derby will succeed to the Dukedom of Hamilton. The consequence is it is not improbable that one of the most ancient and historical Earldoms will become a minor title of a future Duke of Hamilton. The Duke of Abercorn is the real head of the famous clan Hamilton.

The Duke of Richmond was a few years ago created Duke of Gordon, but his family name is Lennox. No doubt his creation was a political matter. It certainly was unjust to the Marquis of

Huntley, the heir male of the Gordon family. The last Duke of Gordon died in 1836, and the chieftainship undoubtedly went to the Marquis of Huntley, but the title was given to the Duke of Gordon's sister's son, viz., the Duke of Richmond, a descendant of King Charles the Second.

The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensbury, lately deceased, was a direct descendant of the ill-fated James, Duke of Monmouth, who was also Duke of Buccleuch. The Duke of Monmouth married (and assumed his wife's surname) Anne Scott, second Countess and first Duchess of Buccleuch, when the lady was only twelve years of age. King Charles the Second (the Duke of Monmouth's father) succeeded in securing for his son "the greatest heiress and finest woman of her time."

In concluding this communication I would mention that the Grants of Ballindalloch are really the chiefs of Macpherson. The name Macpherson means "son of a parson." The father of the first of the name was Abbot of Kingussie, but his elder brother dying without issue he obtained from the Pope a dispensation to enable him to marry. George Macpherson, the Abbot's direct descendant, having inherited, in 1806, the estate of his maternal uncle General James Grant, of Ballindalloch, assumed the surname of Grant, and was created a baronet in 1838.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE MANCHESTER OBSERVER.

(Query No. 3,455, April 19.)

[3,458.] The *Manchester Observer* was printed and published by my father, James Wroe, No. 18, Market-street, Manchester, from its infancy, January 13, 1818, to February 12, 1820, No. 111. The copyright was disposed of to Thomas John Evans, and published by him at the above address. The *Observer* died when aged about four years. The following is an extract from James Wroe's farewell address:—

The great and accumulating expenses to which I have been subjected by the vexatious prosecutions instituted against me would alone have obliged me to give it up—contending with the "friends that be"—but when I add to this the fear and even terror with which my friends have been seized from the supposed operation of the late Act of Parliament, I have no longer a choice.

I never heard of a William Thompson being editor.

I have the third volume (1820) in my possession, and any person can see it.

JAMES WROE.

Altrincham.

* * *

The first number of the *Manchester Observer, or Literary, Commercial, and Political Register*, appeared on Saturday, January 3, 1818. It was first printed and published by Thomas Rogerson, 11, Market-street. Rogerson, however, withdrew after the fourth number, on account, it appears, of the Editor not adhering to the original design. The first number was ushered into its short and turbulent life with an address to the public. The address declared that it would be distinguished as an "independent paper," and further, that "free from all party attachments, uninfluenced by names and factions, we feel the strongest security for the independency of our political opinions." Before the paper had advanced very far in its career, it assumed an intensely democratic tone, which was the cause, ultimately, of its suppression. The proprietorship of the paper seems to have changed hands pretty often, Mr. James Wroe, who succeeded Rogerson, resigning it about the beginning of 1820. At this time it had a large circulation for the times, "estimated at 10,000 readers weekly—buyers and borrowers all told." The latter class, however, according to Mr. Proctor, "far outnumbered the buyers." Mr. Wroe sold his copyright to Mr. Evans, who then published the *Observer* in Market-street as before.

The first article in the first issue of the *Observer* before me was "On Gaming," signed by "Observer," strongly reprobating the practice. In the same number there is an account of the trial of Mr. Hone for "publishing blasphemous libels on the Litany, the Catechism, and the Creed of St. Athanasius." In a succeeding issue, a subscription is opened on his acquittal "for the purpose of enabling Mr. Hone to surmount those difficulties in which he has been placed by being selected by the Ministers of the Crown as the object of their persecution."

There are some amusing announcements of marriages in the *Observer*, which, if genuine, afford a striking aspect of the tone of society sixty-five years ago. In the first number, under the heading of *Marriages*, with a cut representing Cupid carrying an arrow in one hand and a lighted torch in the other, is the following curious announcement:—

Lately, at Overton, after a courtship of only ten years, Mr. J. Wright to Mrs. Elizabeth Radley.

Neither of these young rogues exceed seventy years of age.

Another curious marriage announcement is that of a Mr. John Pocock, widower, aged seventy-three, to Mrs. Hannah Willard, aged sixty-three, who had previously been four times a wife and as often a widow.

After referring to the "still blooming bride," it goes on to describe the ceremony, which was

Preceded by merry peals on the church bells, the first of which was rung by six men whose united ages together amounted to 403 years; the second by another set of six whose united ages made 440. The happy couple each possesses a little property, and can boast of a progeny of nearly 100 children and grandchildren.

The *Manchester Observer* went through four years of hot opposition and persecution, one of its proprietors, Mr. Wroe, being indicted for libel. Not only was it strongly democratic in its character; the language of some of its leading articles was not over-choice. After about four years precarious existence the *Manchester Observer* ceased to exist. As regards "G. H's" query, I don't know if Mr. William Thompson had any connection with the paper.

E. MACKAY-YOUNG.

Manchester.

BULLOCK SMITHY, NOW HAZEL GROVE.

(Note No. 3,451, April 19.)

[3,459.] In an atlas in my possession by Herman Moll, geographer, published in London, 1724, the village is therein described as "Hesselgrave." It will be seen by this that the change of name was long anterior to the time given by SENEX. W. G.

* * *

I have an old guide of highways and cross-roads, published nearly 200 years ago, which gives the name of Hazel Grave to the village near Stockport commonly known as Bullock Smithy. Hazel Grave was no doubt the original name of the village. The figures 1796 on the stone referred to by SENEX bear out that argument. S.

Newport, Monmouth.

GESETTES LAND.

(Query No. 3,429, March 22.)

[3,460.] Mr. CHARLES HARDWICK inquires if any person can explain why or how a farm situated between Blackpool and Poulton, in the Fylde district, came to be called by the title of Gessets Farm. Being acquainted with Mr. John Parkinson, the occupant of the farm, I have made inquiries, and

he informs me the reason is as follows:—A vicar of Bispham (I cannot say at what period) formerly occupied this same farm. At that time the people of this district were not supplied with literature as they are at present, the only journal or newspaper they could obtain being the *London Gazette*. This the vicar got; and used to read it to the neighbouring farmers and villagers, who, when they met each other, frequently used the expression of "Whear thae gooin?" "Ah! yer gooin to yeer 'th Gessit read." From that date the farm has retained the name of "Gessits Farm." JOE KENNEDY.
Harpurhey.

GOYT OR MERSEY.

(Nos. 3,430, 3,433, and 3,453.)

[3,461.] Having been referred to by several of your esteemed correspondents, although I am very much occupied with the final part of my *History of Stockport*, I shall be very glad to aid in the settlement of this question by quoting, as far as my opportunity serves, the various authorities and writers upon the subject, reserving the expression of my own opinion until the series is complete. This will enable your readers to judge for themselves, and perhaps induce some of them to supplement additional opinions and authorities. The simple question is, where does the Mersey arise, or at what part of the stream does the river become entitled to that name? Three opinions are entertained:—

1. That expressed in your reply to a correspondent, "Anxious One," "The Etherow flows into the Goyt, and the Goyt and Tame join together in Stockport, and then take the name of Mersey."

2. That the Mersey begins at the junction of the Goyt and Etherow at the Water Meetings below Compstall.

3. That the Mersey rises in the mountains near Woodhead and retains that name throughout the whole of its course.

The following opinions are given as nearly as possible in the order of dates:—

Saxton's *Map of Cheshire* is the oldest authority upon the subject. This map was published in 1577 more than 300 years ago, and was drawn after actual survey by Saxton and his assistants. A copy may be seen at the Chetham Library, and a facsimile of the portion relating to this district will appear in the final part of my History. In it the Mersey is shown to arise in the mountains near

Woodhead. The name Etherow is not given in the Map.

Speed's *Map of Cheshire*, dated 1610, also shows the Mersey to arise from the mountains at Woodhead. A facsimile of the portion of this map relating to this district appears in my History, vol. i. p. 325. John Speed, who was a Cheshire man, published this map of his native county after personal survey. He travelled through every province of England, and died in 1629. He does not mention the Etherow.

Camden in his *Britannia*, written at the latter part of the 16th century, thus refers to the river Mersey: "The river Mersey which springeth in the mountains becomes the boundary as soon as it hath gone a little from the rise of it, and runs with a gentle stream to the west, inviting as it were other rivers, to use the words of the poet, into its azure lap; and forthwith receives the Irwell from the north, and with it all the rivers of the eastern part." In my edition of Camden, published by Gibson in 1695, several maps are given which fully illustrate this opinion.

Smith and Webb, in their *Vale Royall of England*, written about 1612, after actual survey, and published in 1656, thus refer to this river:—"Along by Merzey water lies the stately Lordship of Mottram in Londendale, and on the top of the hill, the town and the goodly fair Parish Church and antient parsonage." There is no reference in this work to the river Etherow.

Dr. Charles Leigh, in his *Natural History of Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Peak in Derbyshire*, published in 1700, gives a map engraved by H. Moll, "in which are delineated most of ye towns, rivers, &c.," referred to therein, shows the Mersey to arise near to the Lady Cross on the borders of Yorkshire, and to continue its course through Stockport to Liverpool.

H. HEGINBOTHAM.

Stockport.

[To be continued.]

QUERIES.

[3,462.] TROMBONE.—A short time ago I met with the use of the word trombone in a sense quite new to me. In a romance by Ann Radcliffe, called *The Italian*, published in 1797, a peasant guide to a priest through a forest is said to have been armed with a "trombone," which he fired off a number of times, making "every rock reverberate with the sound," and then re-loaded the weapon to be prepared

for banditti. With our English notions of the word it seems strange to speak of loading and firing off a trombone; and I should be glad to know something about the word, and whether the musical instrument came to be called a trombone after this weapon or the weapon from the instrument. No doubt the trombone mentioned was a sort of blunderbuss, named so after its trumpet-shaped mouth. The instrument, the bombard or bombardion, is no doubt so called from its loud noise, or the old name for the large gun for firing bombs, and the trombone from its being a form of trombetta or trumpet; but the word used as a weapon in English seems very unusual. I have not met with it in this sense in any of the old dictionaries.

F. S. A.

[3,463.] FRUITERER.—Is it correct to style a dealer in fruit a fruiterer? If fruiterer is the correct form, why not bakerer, sailorer, saddlerer, tinkerer, or millerer? Only once I have seen it fruiter on a sign-board. The sign-board writers seem to me the only persons who benefit by the addition of the letters er to fruiter. They can charge for two letters more than I think is needful.

WILLIAM DINSMORE.

EGG-COLLECTING.—Egg-collecting, in these days of refinement, is often pronounced cruel; and it undoubtedly is so as pursued by some thoughtless people, who will take all the eggs out of a nest without the slightest knowledge of their state of incubation. But a very good collection may be made without doing any harm to the feathered fraternity; for instance taking one egg out of four, when the bird is laying, does not at all interfere with her bringing forth her brood. There is an old superstition that no bird can count to more than three. Whether this be true or not, a bird with four eggs very often forsakes her nest after two have been taken away, while this very rarely occurs if three remain.—*Cassell's Familiar Wild Birds*.

CENTENARIANS.—Our obituary last week announced the death of Miss Sarah Clark, at Hammer-smith, at the great age of 105 years. A nephew of the deceased, Mr. Charles Clark, is now living in Manchester, and has attained his eighty-ninth year. Miss Clark was one of fourteen children, born at Aberdeen, the first in 1763 and the last in 1782. Miss Clark was born March 7, 1780, and up to two or three years ago she retained in a wonderful degree both mental and bodily activity. In the last two years her strength gradually failed, and her mind became clouded. The Registrar-General in his return gives her age as 104, and states that death was from "natural decay." A woman named Annie Leeson, aged 103 years, has just died at Solihull, near Birmingham. The old lady lived with her son, who is seventy-nine years of age. She was in full possession of her faculties, and frequently took walks and attended tea meetings and other gatherings.

Saturday, May 3, 1884.

NOTES.

HISTORICAL NAMES AND TITLES.

II.

[3,464.] In my former communication I mentioned that King Charles the Second secured for his son James, Duke of Monmouth and Buccleuch, the hand of the greatest heiress of her time when the lady was only twelve years of age. The "Merry Monarch" had an easy way of providing for his children. His son, Charles Lennox, was created Duke of Richmond and Lennox, and the dignity was kept up at somebody else's expense. The son of the same monarch, Charles Beauclerk, was created Duke of St. Albans, and Lady Diana de Vere, eldest daughter and eventually sole heiress of Aubery de Vere, twentieth and last Earl of Oxford, was married to him. Henry Fitzroy, another son of King Charles the Second, was provided for through the only daughter and heiress of the Earl of Arlington being married to him at the mature age of twelve years. This Henry Fitzroy was created Duke of Grafton, and his descendant, the Earl of Euston (eldest son of the present Duke of Grafton) had a singular trial a few weeks ago in the Divorce Court.

The aristocratic name of De Vere I have already alluded to as being extinct, but I may here state that it is borne by one family only at the present day, and that in Ireland, viz., Sir Vere Edmond De Vere, Baronet, whose father *assumed* that surname in 1832, in place of his own of Hunt. The star of De Vere disappeared for ever in 1690 at the death of Earl Aubery, who was styled "the noblest subject in England—indeed in Europe." Poets and novelists only use it now.

The Duke of Northumberland is certainly a descendant of the warlike Percies, but the male line failed, and on two occasions the heiresses of the family have had to arrange that their husbands should assume the name of Percy. Sir Hugh Smithson, Baronet, married the heiress of the family and assumed the surname and arms of Percy, by Act of Parliament, in 1750. He was created Earl Percy and Duke of Northumberland in 1766, and was ancestor to the present Duke.

The Earl of Warwick of the present time is in no way a descendant of the Great King-maker, the last of the barons, although the family of Greville (the

present Earl's surname) has been for centuries of the greatest importance in the county of Warwick.

The Lord Nelson of to-day is not a descendant of the famous admiral, but of his sister, Mrs. Bolton. This lady's son, Thomas, succeeded to the title, and assumed, in lieu of his own surname and arms, the surname and arms of Nelson. The nation, in its grief at the loss of its great admiral at the Battle of Trafalgar, made it imperative that the name of Nelson be taken by every inheritor of the title, and a sum of money was voted to purchase an estate to accompany the title of "Earl Nelson," which was given to the admiral's brother with reversion to the sister's children. None of the inheritors of the title and the estates appear to have found fault with the arrangement.

The house of Egerton traces its descent to a very remote period of English history. Its members have been loyal and honourable, and have occupied high positions not only in the counties of Cheshire and Lancashire, but in the State. William le Belward, Baron of Malpas, when the Normans held their sway, had (1) a son named David, whose descendants took the name of Egerton from inheriting the lordship of Egerton; (2) a son named Robert, who assumed the surname of Cholmondeley from that barony, and founded the house of Cholmondeley. The present head of the house of Egerton is Sir Philip le Belward Grey-Egerton, Baronet, of Oulton Park, near Tarporley. All the other Egertons are merely branches, and have adopted the name through marriage with heiresses of the family. A former baronet, Sir Thomas Egerton, of Oulton, married a daughter and co-heir of Sir Ralph Assheton, of Middleton, who brought him extensive estates near Manchester, including Heaton Hall and Park. Sir Thomas Egerton's only daughter married the then Earl Grosvenor, and Sir Thomas himself was created Earl of Wilton and Viscount Grey de Wilton, with reversion in default of his own male issue to his daughter's second son, the Honourable Thomas Grosvenor. This Thomas Grosvenor (who took the name of Egerton) was the late Earl of Wilton, father of the present peer who has so long been known as Viscount Grey de Wilton. The Egertons represent in the female line the extinct Barons Grey de Wilton.

When Francis Egerton (a descendant of the Egerton's of Oulton), the last but justly-celebrated Duke of Bridgewater, died, in 1803, it was found that he had left the immense wealth he had amassed

to his nephew, George Granville Leveson Gower, Marquis of Stafford, first Duke of Sutherland, with reversion to his Grace's second son, Lord Francis, who accordingly took the surname of Egerton, and was created Earl of Ellesmere. The present Earl of Ellesmere is grandson of Lord Francis, first Earl.

William Tatton, of Wythenshawe, the representative of the ancient house of Tatton of Tatton (an estate which they lost, and regained by marriage in 1747), and of one of those honourable and loyal Cheshire cavalier families, who fought long and stubbornly for King Charles during the Civil War, married in 1747, Miss Hester Egerton, eventually heiress to her brother Samuel Egerton, of Tatton Park (of the family of Egertons, Lord Bridgewater). Their only son (and successor), William Tatton-Egerton, born 1749, thus became of Tatton and Wythenshawe, and his eldest son, Wilbraham Egerton, took his mother's estate of Tatton, and the next son, Thomas William Tatton, his father's estate of Wythenshawe, consequently the Egertons of Tatton, and the Tattons of Wythenshawe are near relatives.

The ancient Cheshire family of Mainwaring, of Over Peover, near Knutsford, is represented by the Mainwarings, of Whitmore, Staffordshire, and other branches. Sir Philip Tatton Mainwaring, the present baronet, is a descendant of the Rev. Thomas Wettenhall, who married the widow of the owner of Over Pecver, viz., Henry Mainwaring. The son of this lady, by Henry Mainwaring, died and left the estate to his half-brother Thomas, the son of his mother by the Rev. Thomas Wettenhall. It will thus be seen that the present family is not connected by blood with the old Cheshire Mainwaring family. The son, Thomas Wettenhall, on succeeding to his half-brother's estate, took the name of Mainwaring, and the family at Peover Hall are his descendants. It may be stated that the present baronet's mother was Miss Emma Tatton, daughter of the late Thomas William Tatton, of Wythenshawe; therefore the family is closely allied with the Egerton of Tattons as well as the Tattons of Wythenshawe.

The family of Tollemache claims Saxon descent and the name is said to be a corruption of the word "toll-mark," i.e., the tolling of a bell or bell-ringer. In an old book I have it states, "Upon the old Manor House at Bentley may still be seen the following inscription:—

Before the Normans into England came,
Bentley was my seat and Tollemache was my name.

By the marriage of Sir Lionel Tollemache with the Countess of Dysart in the seventeenth century there was a son (and successor), viz., Lionel Tollemache, who married, in 1680, Grace, eldest daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Wilbraham, Baronet, of Woodhey, County of Chester, thus bringing the Tollemache family in connection with that county, a connection which fortunately for those who have the pleasure of knowing the family still exists. The son of Lionel and Grace, his wife, succeeded as third Earl of Dysart. He had two daughters, the elder Louisa became Countess of Dysart in her own right. She was succeeded by her grandson Lionel William John, in 1840, and he was succeeded in 1878 by his grandson, the present Earl. The younger of the two daughters alluded to, viz., Lady Jane Tollemache, married, in 1771, John Delap Halliday, and had four children. The eldest John, an admiral in the Royal Navy, married Lady Elizabeth Stratford, daughter of John, Earl of Aldborough, and assumed his mother's maiden name of Tollemache. Admiral John Tollemache had, with other issue, (1) John (now Lord) Tollemache of Helmingham and Peckforton; and (2) Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache, of Dorfold Hall, near Nantwich. The eldest sons of both these brothers are the representatives in Parliament of West Cheshire.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FRUITERER.

(Query No. 3,463, April 28.)

[3,465.] In these days of astonishing dictionaries old Walker is taken no notice of, and indeed is already nearly forgotten; but this neglect is not quite justifiable, since in Walker many useful hints are still to be found. For instance, under the word "Forger," he has the following note, apropos to Mr. Dinsmore's question in the *City News* of last week:—

This word is sometimes, but without the least foundation in analogy, written "forgerer." If it should be urged that the word comes from the French verb "forger," and therefore like "fruiterer" from "fruitier," we add an "er" to make it a verbal noun; it may be answered that we have the word to "forge" in the same sense as the French, but we have no verb to "fruit," and therefore there is an excuse for adding "er" in the last word which has no place in the former.

F. S.

Manchester.

* * *

We think the term "Fruiterer" is strictly correct when applied to a dealer in fruit. The term Fruiter can only be applied to a grower of fruit.

FRITH AND DAWSON.

Cheetham.

GESSETTES LAND.

(Nos. 3,429 and 3,460.)

[3,466.] I thank Mr. KENNEDY for his explanation of the name of the farm referred to; but I fear it is only a very palpable after-effort to attach a meaning to a lost word. I am not quite certain, if I did not myself originate the mythical vicar of Bispham, that I am entirely guiltless of aiding in the perpetuation of his existence. I remember, above thirty years ago, jokingly suggesting to the late Mr. Warbrick's family some such elucidation of the mysterious name attached to the farm in question. Now Mr. Warbrick, many years previously, had occupied the farm for a considerable period, yet the newspaper eponym did not seem satisfactory to either him or his family. The extract from Mr. Seeborn's recently published work, which I gave in your issue of March 22, describes "geneat land or gessettes land" as that portion of a Thane's estate (distinct from his "inland land" or "demesne land" cultivated by his own serfs) which was let out to tenants on specified conditions. Mr. Seeborn says:—"Gessettes land" etymologically seems to mean simply land set or let out to tenants." As 'Geneat-land,' in Bosworth's Anglo-Saxon Dictionary, is described as "land granted for services or rent," the meaning of the term "gessettes" seems pretty clearly determined, the mythical vicar of Bispham's London Gazette newspaper notwithstanding. What I am anxious to learn is if there be any similar survival of the term either in Lancashire or any other locality.

CHARLES HARDWICK.

Talbot-street, Moss Side.

THE HAMILTON SUCCESSION AND THE DERBY FAMILY.

(Note No. 3,457, April 28.)

[3,467.] May I ask in what way Mr. Daggatt would make the Earl of Derby to be next heir in reversion to the Hamilton dignities failing issue to the present Duke and his brother? As I read the Hamilton descent Lord Derby is a very long way from such succession. James, third Marquis of Hamilton, was, in 1643, created Duke of Hamilton "with remainder to him and the heirs male of his body, failing which to his brother William and the

heirs male of his body, failing which to the eldest heir female of the said Marquis's body without division, and to the heirs male of the body of such heir female, all of which failing remainder to the nearest legitimate heirs whatsoever of the said Marquis."

The first Duke died leaving two daughters only, and was succeeded in his honours by his brother William, second Duke, who died leaving issue four daughters. According to the reversionary clause in the Patent the dignity then devolved upon the Lady Anne Hamilton, the first Duke's eldest daughter. She married Lord William Douglas, who was created Duke of Hamilton for life. Their son succeeded his mother, becoming fourth Duke, and left three sons, viz., (1) James, his heir; (2) Lord William, who died without issue; (3) Lord Anne (so named after his god-mother Queen Anne). The eldest son James, fifth Duke, was followed by his eldest son James, sixth Duke, whose two sons James George and Douglas, successively seventh and eighth Dukes, died without issue, leaving an only sister Elizabeth, wife of Edward, twelfth Earl of Derby. Upon the decease of her brothers this lady and her issue became certainly eldest co-heir general of the first Duke of Hamilton, and, if Mr. Daggatt's view be correct, ought then to have inherited the titles. But the Letters Patent expressly give to the heirs male of the first Duke's daughters priority of succession over heirs female. Accordingly the eighth Duke was followed by his uncle Archibald, ninth Duke, who was second son of James, fifth Duke, and ancestor of the present Peer. It is only under the last reversionary clause in the Patent, i.e., "the nearest legitimate heirs whatsoever," that the Derby line can have any right to the succession, and this cannot take effect until the entire extinction of male descendants of the first Duke's daughters. This is a contingency at present most remote, for although it is true, as stated by Mr. DAGGATT, that the present Duke and his brother are, as yet, without issue, there exists a very numerous male posterity to Lord Anne Hamilton-Douglas, the youngest son of James, the fourth Duke.

W. D. PINK.

Leigh.

QUERIES.

[3,468.] PIKES.—What was the origin of the Pikes on the Penine range, and in what year was Hartshead Pike built?

A. S. GARNER.

[3,469.] THE FIRST NEWSPAPER.—What is the date and name of the first newspaper published in this or any other country?

J. S.

[3,470.] BY ROAD TO LLANDUDNO.—Will any of your readers kindly describe a route by road to Llandudno, allowing three or four days to reach that place?

JAMES HUDSON.

[3,471.] SAND FLEAS.—Can any reader give me a receipt for destroying the small sand fleas which are such an intolerable pest in a hot country? I am about leaving England, and having just received a letter from my son telling me what I shall have to endure, I shall be thankful of a remedy. British powder they defy, also carbolic acid, oil of peppermint, and arsenic. Of course these are used in water and the floors freely sprinkled.

SELF-DEFENCE.

ONE USE OF THE EAST WIND.—Mr. Reid, of the Geological Survey, in an article in the *Geological Magazine*, arrives at the conclusion that it is "to the keen east winds of spring that we owe in a great measure the fertility of our country." He says that in order to form a good soil, a mixture of materials from different rocks is necessary; and it seems that, on high ground, such a mixture can only be effected by means of wind. Mr. Reid therefore sees the origin of most fertile soils in the finely divided mineral matter and organic dust which is constantly present in the atmosphere, and was probably far more abundant in former periods, when the climate was colder.

The sale of the Beckford and Hamilton libraries, after occupying forty-eight days spread over the last two years, was brought to a conclusion in London yesterday week. Prices beyond all previous experience have been obtained for the books and manuscripts. The latter were secured by the German Government, who despatched Herr Lippmann and two other experts to examine them and treat with Messrs. Sotheby, who had prepared an elaborate catalogue and were about to offer them in public auction. The sum paid is a secret, but it is understood to have been something under £100,000. The *Times* points out that we are enabled to arrive near the exact sum by finding that the gross amount realized by the sales of library of books and the manuscripts is admitted to be between £160,000 and £170,000. The Hamilton books have now brought £12,891, and the Beckford books £73,552, thus giving £86,443; the remainder would be due to the manuscripts now in the Berlin Museum. The sale will, of course, be recorded as the most remarkable for money value of our time, and it will be coupled with the Sunderland library sale, which it exceeded in value by about £100,000, though it did not approach it in literary interest.

Saturday, May 10, 1884.

NOTES.

AN OLD CHURCH PORCH IN KENT.

[3,472.] I have received from a correspondent in London a charming little pen and ink sketch of Orpington Church Porch, described as follows:—"Nicholas, Rector of Orpington, made his will in 1370, wherein he records the fact that during his lifetime he had newly built the porch and within its shelter he made direction that his remains should be buried." The following extract from the letter conveying the above may interest some of your readers, who doubtless hail from all parts of the kingdom:—"I have copied from my note-book a bit I had dotted down at the village in Kent, about fifteen miles from London, where I go for my gatherings of wild-flowers, for you have to go as far as that now in any direction almost from this great wide-stretching city, and here one secures smokeless primroses, and bluebells with something of the azure which dwells above them. Here, too, you get at a touch of hoar antiquity in the village; and I was much struck with the simple record that this old Rector Nicholas had built this Church Porch in 1370 and lies buried in it; and that in 1884 I should be sketching it, and apparently not an event of consequence has happened to the spot since that date to this."

WALTER HULL.

Brooklands.

CHARLES READE AND MRS. SEYMOUR.

[3,473.] The late Charles Reade, the novelist, was buried in the same grave, side by side, with a lady who, together with her husband, had been an almost life-long friend of his, and to whose memory he erected a marble tomb. The remarkable inscription on this tomb has already been printed in the *City News*. After stating that it was erected to the memory of "Laura Seymour, a brilliant artist, a humble Christian, a charitable woman, a loving daughter, sister, and friend, who lived for others from her childhood," it records that she died September 27, 1879, aged fifty-nine years, and adds "this grave was made for her and for himself by Charles Reade, whose wise counsellor, loyal ally, and bosom friend she was for twenty-four years." Many people have wondered who Mrs. Seymour was, and as she had some connection with Manchester, a few particulars concerning her may fittingly find a place in these columns.

Mrs. Seymour in her time was an actress of some celebrity. In the *Illustrated London News* of October 4, 1879, the following passage occurs in the *Echoes of the Week*, by Mr. G. A. Sala:—"On Tuesday last, in the picturesque old churchyard at Willesden, I saw peacefully laid to rest all that was mortal of Mrs. Laura Seymour, once a most delightful and deservedly popular actress; always a most genial, amiable, and simple-minded lady. A select band of those who had loved and esteemed her gathered round the quiet grave in the shadow of the ancient church, both the exterior and the interior of which have been made famous by the pen of Harrison Ainsworth and the etching-needle of George Cruikshank. Watching the wealth of rare flowers beneath which the coffin disappeared, my thoughts went back three and forty years to the St. James's Theatre, where Mrs. Seymour, as Miss Laura Alison, made her first appearance on the stage—a beautiful, graceful, laughing girl."

Old Manchester play-goers will remember Mrs. Seymour well. She made her first appearance here as Juliet at the old Manchester Theatre Royal in Fountain-street, and was announced as "from the principal American theatres." She also appeared as Lady Gay Spanker, Margaret Elmore in *Love's Sacrifice*, and other plays, being generally supported by Gustavus Brooke. This was during the brief and eccentric management of Anderson, the Great Wizard of the North, when no actor or actress had much opportunity of shining. Mrs. Seymour, however, who, as Mr. Sala says, was a very pretty woman, became a great favourite. Subsequently she went to the Haymarket during Ben Webster's management, and played leading comedy there. During the summer vacation of that theatre, in August, 1844, Mrs. Seymour played a starring engagement here at the old Queen's Theatre in York-street, in conjunction with that consummate actor Mr. William Farren, father and grandfather of the present comedians of that name. Mrs. Glover also appeared. Mrs. Seymour undertook the principal juvenile feminine parts, and, without making any invidious comparisons, was at that time perhaps the handsomest woman on the British stage. For her benefit she played Lady Gay Spanker in *London Assurance*, Farren appearing in his original character Sir Harcourt Courtly, and Mrs. Budd in the farce of the *Double-bedded Room*.

Ten years ago Mrs. Seymour had the Queen's Theatre in London, now pulled down, and produced there Mr. Charles Reade's *Wandering Jew*, with Mrs.

John Wood as the heroine Philippa, and herself as the old Irish Nurse. After its London run the *Wandering Heir* was produced at the Manchester Theatre Royal, under Mr. Reade's own supervision, and with Miss Ellen Terry in the principal character. During the intervals of the play Mr. Reade stalked about the corridors of the theatre carrying a huge cudgel, and looked more like an eminent agriculturist than a writer of tales and dramas.

Shortly after her production of *Foul Play* in London Mrs. Seymour retired from the stage. Mr. Charles Reade, as he said in her epitaph, "mourned her all his days," and was buried beside her.

J. C.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GOYT OR MERSEY.

(No. 3,461 and others.)

[3,474.] The following is a continuation of opinions upon this question:—

A.D. 1578. William Smith, Rouge Pursuivant, thus describes the origin and course of the Mersey:—

The course of the River of Marsey. The Marsey is the second river of Cheshire, which springeth at a place called Woodhead, amongst the Peak Hills; where these three shires, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and Cheshire do join together; and keepeth his course south-west to Mottram-in-Long-en dale, being the limit and mark between Derbyshire and Cheshire from the very head; until it meet with a small river named Goyt: which is three miles beneath the said Mottram; where turning west, it crosseth over a corner of Cheshire whereby it hath Cheshire on both sides and cometh to the market town of Stopford, but before it come there it taketh in the Tame, which departeth Cheshire and Lancashire till it meet with the Marsey; and then the Marsey divideth them all its course, which is from Stopford to Cheadle, where it receiveth a small river that cometh out of Lyme Park, by Pointon, Norbury, and Bromhall, and then passeth on to Northen.

The whole course of the Marsey is about forty-four miles.

The same writer observes with respect to the river Tame:—

The Taume springeth in Yorkshire at a village called Taume, and parteth Lancashire and Cheshire asunder all his course, which is from Micklehurst to Staley Hall, Ashton-under-Lyme, Duckenfield, Denton, Reddish, and so near Stopford falleth into the Marsey, where it giveth over both name and office; the whole course is about ten miles.

A.D. 1613. Drayton, in his *Poly-olbion*, the Cheshire

portion being published about 1613, thus refers to the river Mersey:—

O! thou thrice happy shire, confined so to bee,
Twixt two so famous floods as Mersey is, and Dee.
Thy Dee upon the West from Wales doth thee divide:
Thy Mersey on the North, from the Lancastrian side,
Thy naturall sister shire; and linkt unto thee so,
That Lancashire along with Cheshire still doth goe,
As towards the Derbian Peake, and Moreland (which
doe draw
More mountainous and wild) the high-crown'd Shutt-
lings lawe.

These lines are accompanied by singularly clear maps distinctly indicating the courses of the streams. Many of the rivers are presided over by quaint and picturesque drawings of the Naiads of the waters. The portions relating to Lancashire and Cheshire have been admirably reproduced by my esteemed friend Mr. J. Eglington Bailey, F.S.A., in the April number of the *Palatine Note Book*, and are well deserving of examination. The Map for Cheshire shows the origin of the Mersey to be from Woodhead.

1680. In an ancient Map of Stockport drawn about this time, engraved for the first time in the fourth part of my *History of Stockport*, vol. ii. p. 97, the "River of Marcy" is seen passing through the town above the junction of the Tame.

1748. In a Map of "Cheshire from the latest and best Surveys," the Mersey is shown as arising at Woodhead, and there is no mention of the Etherow.

1748. In the *Geographia Magnæ Britanniae, or correct Maps of all the Counties*, published October 12, 1748, the river Mersey is also given as arising at Woodhead, and also without mention of the Etherow.

1749. *Britannia Depicta, or Ogilby's Actual Survey*, improved by Owen with maps and plans, engraved by Bowen, shows the origin of the Mersey at Woodhead; no allusion to the river Etherow.

The first mention I have hitherto found of the river Etherow is made by the Rev. John Watson in his description of Melandra Castle, in *Archæologia*, vol. iii. p. 236, which he describes to be situated "on the south side of the river Mersey (or as some call it The Edrow) near Woolley Bridge, in the parish of Glossop." I do not remember when he published this description, but probably about the year 1772.

1795. Aikin, in his "General Account of Cheshire" contained in his *Description of the country thirty or forty miles round Manchester*, says:—

The Mersey takes its origin from a conflux of streams near the junction of Cheshire with Derbyshire and Yorkshire, and first forms the eastern limit of the

eastern horn of Cheshire under the name of the Etherow River. When arrived at the place where the Goyt meets it coming from the south, they together continuing a middle direction flow across the root of the horn, as it may be termed, and reach Stockport. Here the Tame, which may be reckoned the other parent of the Mersey, and which forms the western limit of the eastern horn, falls in. From this junction the Mersey under its proper name forms the boundary between Lancashire and quite to the sea.

Again—

The Goyt rises near the place where the road from Macclesfield to Buxton crosses the limits of the county, and it forms the boundary between Cheshire and Derbyshire, till it meets the Etherow river near Chadkirk, as before described. The united streams keep the name of Goyt till they reach the Mersey at Stockport.

Aikin, however, is rather contradictory in his references to the Mersey. For instance, on page 470 he says:—

The Wood-head, seven miles from Mottram, is a place well known to the weary travellers who have crossed the hills above in their way from Yorkshire. It consists of three public and a few private houses. The Mersey even at this place is a powerful stream in winter, pouring down in great rapidity and sometimes overflowing the meadows on its banks. It rises from different springs about one mile from the inn called Salters-brook-house, within the West Riding of Yorkshire, and rather more than four miles above the Woodhead, and it is joined in its course to Mottram by several rivulets which take their rise from these barren hills and moors, large tracts of which scarcely yield a blade of grass for the half-starved sheep.

In all his local references to places on the stream between Woodhead and the Water Meetings at Compstall, Aikin almost invariably calls the river the Mersey.

1797. In *A Reduced Map of the Country round Manchester*, published May 1, 1797, the river is named Mersey throughout its course, and the Etherow is not at all referred to.

I hope to conclude the series in my next.

HENRY HEGINBOTHAM.

Stockport.

FRUITERER.

(Nos. 3,463 and 3,465.)

[3,475.] Messrs. Frith and Dawson are mistaken in saying that the term Fruiter can only be applied to a grower of fruit, for I have heard it applied to a ship. I was fishing off Puffin Island some years ago, and the boatmen told me of the wreck of a Fruiter that happened near there awhile before, when "the

river," as they call the straits, was covered over with oranges. They explained to me that the Fruiters were quick sailing boats of about 100 tons, that brought fruit from the Azores to Liverpool.

R. H. A.

Didsbury.

PIKES.

(Query No. 3,468, May 3.)

[3,476.] A. S. GARNER will find the history of Hartshead Pike set forth fully in two communications which appeared in the *City News Notes and Queries* of June 24, 1880 (vol. iii. of the reprint), which he can consult at the Free Library. From one of these Notes, by Mr. SHAWCROSS, of Millbank, Mossley, it appears that there have been three buildings or monuments, the second re-erected in 1751, and the third in 1863, the latter to commemorate the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Princess Alexandra. The Notes of Mr. Shawcross and another contributor will be found to be full of information and interest.

IOTA.

BY ROAD TO LLANDUDNO.

(Query No. 3,470, May 3.)

[3,477.] Your querist does not say whether he is going to walk or ride. If the former he will have to go pretty direct, as the road by the coast will be somewhere about ninety miles. This would be by Altrincham, Northwich, Chester, Hawarden, Holywell, Rhyddlan, Abergele, and Colwyn. I would not go by Flint, as the Dee coast is unattractive. By far the finest route is by Wrexham, Ruabon, Llangollen, Corwen, Cerrig-y-Druidion, Pentre Voelas, Bettws-y-Coed, Llanrwst, Trefriw, and Conway. This goes through some of the finest scenery in North Wales, and I was surprised to find, on measuring it on the map, that it cannot be much over one hundred and twenty miles. A very good intermediate route would be down the valley of the Clwyd, by Mold, Ruthin, Denbigh, and St. Asaph, striking the first route at Rhyddlan.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

THE EGERTONS.

Note No. 3,464, May 3.)

[3,478.] In his account of the Egertons Mr. DAGGATT makes a mistake in stating that a daughter of Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton conveyed to her husband, Sir Thomas Egerton of Oulton, Heaton Hall and Park. The estates of Heaton and Denton, with the advowsons of Prestwich Church and Denton Chapel, were acquired by the marriage, in 1684, of

Sir John Egerton, Bart., of Wrinehill and Farthinghoe, Co. Northampton, with Elizabeth Holland, daughter and heiress of William Holland, of Heaton and Denton. The Egertons then made Heaton Hall and Park their principal residence, and it was Sir John's great grandson, Sir Thomas Egerton, of Heaton and Denton, who married one of two co-heiresses of Sir Ralph Assheton, Bart., of Middleton, the Assheton estates at Middleton and elsewhere being divided between the two heiresses.

JAMES BURY.

QUERIES.

[3,479.] JAMES BUTTERWORTH, CENTENARIAN. Will some reader kindly give a short account, with date of death, of James Butterworth, weaver, of Birch, near Middleton, who died aged 100 years?

J. WARING.

THE MEANING OF SOUDAN.—“Soudan” means country of the negroes, so far as they are Mussulmans. There are three Soudans—the Western Soudan, in Senegambia and the Upper Niger; the Central Soudan comprises Timbuctoo as far as Darfur; the Eastern Soudan is the Egyptian Soudan.

A ROMANCE OF LONDON BRIDGE.—The London correspondent of the *Irish Times* reports the death of a pedlar who sold nick-nacks on a tray near London Bridge, and pretended to be deaf and dumb. Though clothed in rags, he was, it is said, a Swiss gentleman of fortune, who, stung by remorse, had taken a vow that he would not open his lips for ten years, and that he would go bareheaded and barefooted and forego for twenty years all the advantages which fortune had bestowed upon him. He was faithful to his vow, and was in his fourteenth year of voluntary servitude when he died in Southwark workhouse on Tuesday.

THE LOGIC OF PAIN.—Mr. Milner Fothergill, in an article in the current number of the *Contemporary Review*, essays to show the benefit pain confers on man, by pointing out the seat and cause of disease. “Take neuralgia, for instance. It may be the outcome of several conditions which have to be discriminated for its relief. In the young and in early adult life it is almost always the result of imperfect tissue-nutrition, however caused. Romberg wrote with equal poetical feeling and scientific truth, ‘Pain is the prayer of a nerve for healthy blood,’ and neuralgia is the common outcome of blood either poverty-stricken or poisoned by some deleterious ingredients, as in material poisoning, for instance. Without the pain so produced the condition would go on unrelieved, and ulterior organic changes would probably be brought about. But pain impels the sufferer to seek relief.”

Saturday, May 17, 1884.

NOTES.

THE DE VERES.

(No. 3,464, May 3.)

[3,480.] May I ask Mr. DAGGATT whether the De Vere family, which he mentions as having assumed that name and being its only representative at the present day, is the same to which the late Sir Aubrey de Vere, Bart., and his son Aubrey Thomas de Vere, the poet, belong? The former was a friend of Wordsworth, and himself a poet of some merit, while the latter (who is still alive) has written much noble verse, though it is little known in England. The family seat, as stated in *Men of the Time*, is Curragh Chase, co. Limerick. I have never heard that the name of De Vere in this case was an assumed one.

C. E. T.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPERS.

(Query No. 3,469, May 3.)

[3,481.] Newspapers generally have their origin traced to the *Acta Diurna* of Rome, a kind of public journal which Julius Cæsar ordered to be drawn up and published. Their contents included a list of births and deaths, an account of sums paid into the treasury, the edicts of the magistrates, reports of trials, news of foreign wars, and items in regard to all matters of municipal interest. They continued to be published until the reign of the Emperor Julian. In the fifteenth century we hear of News-sheets, styled Relationers or *Neue Zeitung*, as appearing at many of the German and Austrian towns, by and by spreading to Venice, where in 1563 the official *Notizie Scritte*, practically identical with the Roman *Acta*, were to be obtained for a small coin called gazetta, whence, it is said, our own familiar word “gazette.” The *Gazette de France* first appeared in Paris in April, 1631; and one article in it was written by Louis XIII., by whom, as well as by Cardinal Richelieu, it was patronized.

It was not until the seventeenth century that the British Isles became acquainted with a newspaper. It was formerly believed that newspapers were first published in England about the time of the Spanish Armada, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but the specimens preserved in the British Museum, and long regarded as authentic, have been proved to be

forgeries. The first English newspaper was the *Weekly Newes* (or, according to some authorities, "Certaine Newes of the Present Week"), published in London in 1622 by one Nathaniel Butter, a stationer who had failed in business, and who, as early as 1611, had given himself to the collection of news, which he transmitted in MS. to persons who were willing to pay for the luxury. These missives were known as "news-letters."

The first daily paper in England was not, however, issued until 1695, when *The Post Boy*, as it was called, existed for three days, to be followed in 1702 by *The Daily Courant*, published at Fleet Bridge. At first the *Courant* consisted of one page only, with a blank at the back. It may probably interest J. S. to know the dates of the first publication of the following newspapers:—The first commercial newspaper, the *City Mercury*, was published in 1675; the first literary paper, the *Mercurius Librarius*, in 1680; the first sporting paper, the *Jockey's Intelligencer*, in 1683; the first medical paper, 1686. Five newspapers established before the year 1700 in Great Britain are still alive:—The *London Gazette*, 1697; *Course of the Exchange*, 1697; *Berrows Worcester Journal*, 1690; *Stamford Mercury*, 1695; and the *Edinburgh Gazette*, 1690.

CHARLES P. DUNKERLEY.

THE HAMILTON SUCCESSION AND THE DERBY FAMILY.

(Nos. 3,457 and 3,467.)

[3,482.] I am glad to see Mr. PINK's letter on this subject, as it gives me an opportunity for giving reasons for the statement I made, viz., that the Earl of Derby was next heir to the Dukedom of Hamilton failing issue of the present Duke and his brother. The patent was granted in 1643, as Mr. PINK very clearly puts it. The fourth Duke left three sons, viz., (1) James, his heir; (2) Lord William, who died without issue; and (3) Lord Anne (so named after his godmother, Queen Anne). The heir-general to James, eldest son of the fourth Duke, is, as Mr. PINK says, the present Earl of Derby; and I contend, and so does the Knowsley family, that so long as there are descendants of the eldest son of the fourth Duke (whether male or female, but of course the males succeeding first), they succeed to the exclusion of the male descendants of the younger brother, viz., the Lord Anne above mentioned. The reason that Elizabeth, sister to the seventh and eighth Dukes and the

wife of the twelfth Earl of Derby, did not succeed at the death of her brothers was because there was living a male descendant of James, eldest son of the fourth Duke, viz., Archibald, who became ninth Duke. Failing descendants of this Archibald (great-grandfather of the present Duke), I contend that the issue of the Elizabeth, Countess of Derby, succeeds.

The difference in opinion between Mr. PINK and myself is evidently on one point only. That gentleman interprets the meaning of the patent of 1643 to be that females can only succeed when there are no male descendants of any male heir. I interpret the meaning—and so does the present Earl of Derby's advisers—to be that all the descendants (whether male or female) of one male heir must be exhausted before the descendants of the next male heir succeeds. Our royal family is in a similar position. The descendants of the Prince of Wales, whether male or female, must be exhausted before the Duke of Edinburgh or any of his descendants can succeed to the throne of these realms.

I ought to add that the chieftainship of the Douglas family, being only inherited by males, would not go to the Derby family. That, with the titles which the seventh Duke of Hamilton inherited in 1761, at the death of his kinsman the last Duke of Douglas, would go to the heirs male, which are the descendants of the Lord Anne before referred to. The patent of 1643 allowing a female to succeed, had only reference to the Dukedom of Hamilton. The seventh Duke of Hamilton and the last Duke of Douglas were both descended in the male line from Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus, called the "Great Earl," or "Archibald Bell-the-Cat," immortalized by Scott, who said to Marmion—

And dar'et thou then
To beard the lion in his den,
The Douglas in his hall?

This Earl's eldest son fell at Flodden Field, leaving a son whose daughter married Matthew, fourth Earl of Lennox, and was mother of Henry, Lord Darnley, consequently grandmother of King James the First of England, the ancestor of Queen Victoria. Sir Walter Scott, in describing this Earl Archibald Douglas, says:—

I mean that Douglas *sir* of yore,
Who coronet of Angus bore.

I can only fix him as the fifth Earl of Angus.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

THE FRASERS AND MACPHERSONS.

(Note No. 3,457, April 26.)

[3,483.] Mr. CHARLES DAGGATT gives an extract from "a publication having a great sale" regarding the name of Fraser. The quotation is to the effect that the name of Fraser is probably of Scotch origin. Now it so happens that the name of Fraser is one of the only Scotch surnames which is not of Scotch origin, but is undoubtedly derived from a Norman source. The name appears in the Battle Army Roll as Frisale, and the name of Fraser was, and perhaps still is, vulgarly pronounced Frizzle in Scotland. At any rate I have heard it so pronounced within the past twenty years.

The conclusion of the communication, in which it is stated that Macpherson means "the son of a parson," is simply an old wife's tale. The name of Fercharson was probably derived from Ferchar, a chief of the Clan Chattan, whose grandson Macfercharson was in 1450 chief of the Macphersons. These facts are so notorious that it is almost useless to quote an authority, but I may be allowed to cite the *Highlanders of Scotland*, by William F. Skene, F.S.A., published by John Murray in 1837. Probably some of the name may have written you on the subject of Mr. Daggatt's communication, but at any rate reference to standard books is preferable to unnamed publications.

J. P.

* * *

Mr. CHARLES DAGGATT is in error when he says that Sir George Macpherson-Grant of Ballindalloch is the chief of the Macphersons. The present chief is Cluny Macpherson, of Cluny Castle, Kingussie. He was born in 1804, and is the twentieth chieftain in succession from (1) Gillicattan Mòr, who was head or chief of the Clan Chattan in the reign of Malcolm Canmore, about 1059; (2) his son Diarmid succeeded about the year 1090, and in due course was followed by his son (3) Gillicattan (second of that name), who flourished in the reign of King David I., and left issue two sons, Diarmid and Muirich, the eldest of whom (4) Diarmid succeeded him. He, however, did not long survive his father, and, dying without issue, 1152, was succeeded by his brother (5) Muirach, parson of Kingussie, who on thus becoming head of his family and chief of Clan Chattan married, about 1173, a daughter of the Thane of Calder, by whom he had five sons, the eldest of whom (6) Gillicattan succeeded him, in the reign of King Alexander III. He had one son (7) Dougall dàll, who succeeded him as

chief, but dying without male issue the chieftainship devolved upon the next male heir, the eldest son of Ewen bàn, who was the second son of Muirach the Parson.

I will now show where your correspondent is wrong. Ewen bàn had three sons. (1) Kenneth, who became chief (8) of the clan and progenitor of Sliochd Kynich vic Ewen, or first branch of the Macphersons, from whom the present chief Cluny is lineally descended. (2) John, progenitor of the second branch, from whom Berkeley Macpherson, Esq., is lineally descended; and (3) Gilliosa, progenitor of the third branch, and represented now by Sir George Macpherson-Grant, M.P., of Ballindalloch and Invereshie, Bart. From these three sons all the Macphersons are descended.

I had the pleasure of being present at Cluny Castle in December, 1882, when a gathering of the clan took place to do honour to the chief and congratulate him and his lady on attaining the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day. Sir George Macpherson-Grant was there, and, in making a presentation, hailed Cluny as chief. This will be conclusive to Mr. DAGGATT, I think. DONALD D. MACPHERSON.
Cheetham Hill.

EUCLID.

(Query No. 3,450, April 12.)

[3,484.] Four weeks have elapsed since the insertion of this query in the *City News*, and none of your correspondents having deigned to take any notice of it, maybe I shall not be thought presumptuous if I reply to it myself. Before doing so, however, allow me to make a few remarks by way of explanation. Being somewhat out of the usual kind of matter to which you give acceptance, I have to thank you for printing the query. It was not merely for the sake of obtaining an answer that I sent it, but rather to ascertain if amongst the many studious and cultivated readers of the *City News* there be not some who have a faculty and taste for mathematical investigation. I need not insist upon the usefulness of such studies, either as instruments for training and developing the intellect to habits of careful observation and correct reasoning, or upon their fruitfulness in presenting to the mind for contemplation truths of exceeding great beauty. I could fill half a column with the names of eminent men, from Plato down to the greatest of modern times, who have borne decided and emphatic testimony to these things.

Endowed with no special power for such studies, but rather impelled by outward circumstances, to struggle, till nearly twenty years of age, to master common arithmetical problems, they have been to me the pathway and key to all other knowledge I possess; and now that I am old, they are not only the charm and delight of my solitary hours, but as essential to all robustness of mental existence as bread is to the strength of my body. Some weeks ago one of your correspondents told us how much better he was enabled to understand and appreciate poetry by committing it to memory, than by cursorily reading it. I would say to him, and to all who would have health as well as refinement of mind, begin to-day with Euclid's Elements of Geometry, and resolve to, every day henceforth, make himself master of but one proposition, and I will guarantee to him both increased enjoyment and prolongment of life. The first steps are easier of attainment than a knowledge of the common alphabet is either to a child or a grown person. Not irreverently I say, "Do this, and he shall know of the doctrine," i.e., the reason thereof.

The Notes and Queries columns of the *City News* are not unsuitable for brief exertations in abstract, as well as in practical science. Attractive as they now are, to them would be given still another charm. The *York Courant*, the oldest Yorkshire newspaper, now incorporated with the *Herald*, when conducted by the late respected Mr. Hargrove, the historian of York, for many years graced its columns, and did itself well-remembered honour, by printing weekly, eligible and elegant contributions to mathematical science by humble and devoted students in almost every county in England. Politics, trade reports, meetings of "limiteds," tales, and items of ecclesiastical intelligence, are all well enough, given in moderation, but they are fast becoming the "dry rot" of newspaper literature, and the majority of people now-a-days rarely read any other. I now proceed to answer the query.

To Dr. Robert Simson (1687—1768) for fifty-six years professor of Mathematics in the University of Glasgow, belongs the honour of giving us, in our mother English, Euclid's Elements of Geometry in a form nearer perfection than any ever printed before his time; and I do not know that it has been much improved since. Not our own Yorkshire Dr. Bently, or the famous East Anglian, Dr. Porson, could be more fastidiously critical in the examination of the

literature of the ancient Greeks, than was Simson in the restoration of their geometry. But, as I have been told, sometimes they could be too much so, for the requirements of common sense. Simson, in like manner, pushed his passion for refinement a little too far. His remarks upon the Definition quoted by me are a case in point. He says the matter of it should be put in the form of a "theorem," and should be demonstrated like any other proposition, and not defined as taken for granted. To my simple apprehension, in the form as translated from Commandine it seems to be as self-evident as Euclid's eighth axiom, which, as given by Simson, reads thus:—"Magnitudes which coincide with one another, that is, which exactly fill the same space, are equal to one another." Is it necessary to ask, are not "*similar* solid figures (magnitudes) contained under *equal* numbers of *similar* and *equal* planes (i.e., which exactly fill the same space,) equal to one another"? Simson clearly enough proves that dissimilar solids may be contained under equal numbers of similar and equal planes, but this seems to me to be simply begging the question. What Euclid, or rather his Editor (Theon or some other, according to Simson), meant to say was, that the solid figures he proposed to define should be *similar* as well as "contained under equal numbers of similar and equal planes." Simson is at considerable pains to show that "innumerable unequal solid *angles* may be contained under equal numbers of similar and equal planes, placed in the same order," but a solid figure is contained under several solid angles, and he utterly and necessarily fails to show that the correspondent ones in "equal and similar solid figures," are either unequal or dissimilar, each to each.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

P.S.—Simson might "modestly" have spared the expression of his astonishment that for fifteen hundred years geometers had not discovered this mare's nest.

QUERIES.

[3,485.] HATS AND BALDNESS.—Can any of your readers inform me whether wearing hats without linings has any tendency to create baldness? I have been in the habit of wearing hats as stated, and have heard that injurious results to the growth of the hair follow.

H. TOMKINSON.

[3,436.] MERVYN CLITHEROE.—Is the late W. Harrison Ainsworth's book *Mervyn Clitheroe* the story of the author's own life? It is easy to recognize this city and its locality as being the scene of the story, but are there any local celebrities of that time portrayed in the work, and if so, who are they and what characters refer to them? W. V.

[3,487.] CHARLES HEAD.—On the left of the road leading from Whaley Bridge to Macclesfield, about half a mile past the hamlet of Kettleshulme, and exactly south of Sponds Hill, there is, standing on the side of a rather elevated hill and almost hidden from view in a clump of trees, a farmhouse called Charles Head. On referring to the Ordnance Survey map I find that both the house and the hill top above are called Charles Head. Tradition hath it that Charles II., during his flight after his defeat by Cromwell about 1651, was concealed for a short time by the then owners of the farm. The date of erection of the present house is 1764, but I have ascertained that there was an earlier house built on the same site in 1600. Can any one inform me if there is likely to be any truth in the above? It seems probable. I have found documentary evidence of the old house—being called Charles Head two hundred years ago, but not previously. Why is, or when was it, first called Charles Head? Does the house take its name from the hill or the hill from the house? I have seen the place mentioned repeatedly in your paper by various contributors—lately in the article on "The Cheshire Highlands." J. B. C.

SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL IN 1883.—At Greenwich, the number of hours of bright sunshine recorded by Campbell's sunshine instrument during 1883 was 1,241, which is about thirty hours above the average of the six preceding years. The aggregate number of hours during which the sun was above the horizon was 4,454, so that the mean proportion of sunshine for the year was 0.280, constant sunshine being represented by 1. The rainfall in 1883 was 21.9 inches, being about three inches below the average.

The personal estate of Mr. Charles Reade, the novelist, has been proved to amount to over £11,000. In his will Mr. Reade directed his executors not to sell any part of his personal estate by public auction, as "I consider it, though common, a brutal and heartless practice," and he directs Mr. Liston, his godson, to offer for inspection at his own house for a period of two years from his death all his notebooks and scrapbooks, and also the collection of notes of the late Mrs. Laura Seymour to professional writers, especially of dramatic or narrative fiction, and public notice of this is to be given by advertisement.

Saturday, May 24, 1884.

NOTES.

THE LETTER H ON THE STAGE.

[3,488.] In 1869 a Mr. Taylor established a small theatre, under canvas, for the summer months in the market ground at Buxton. He had to find sureties to a considerable amount to guarantee that the performances should not offend religion, laws, or morals, and then his licence had to be granted by four magistrates at petty sessions. Several weeks passed before so many of the great unpaid could be assembled, and, in the meantime, the Players could not earn their daily bread, Mr. Taylor's resources being severely taxed to keep his little company together. This law is rather hard on poor players, and, in these days, needs revision. Every season for many years Lord Redesdale, the talented and respected Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords, has eaten his Michaelmas goose at Buxton, where his lordship always spends a month when the Parliamentary duties are concluded. He attended every performance at Mr. Taylor's theatre during his stay, occupying a prominent place in the front seats. When he departed Mr. Taylor received the following anonymous letter, but any judge of caligraphy would have no doubt in deciding who was the author:—

September 9, 1869.

A well-wisher to Mr. Taylor's company hopes that he will excuse him if he directs his attention to the manner in which some of the actors at his theatre abuse the letter H. The effect of the finest passages is marred by this habit, which are thereby made in the ears of educated persons ridiculous, or become nonsense where the words with or without the letter have a different meaning, as in hair, heart, hear, hold. In a late performance the description of an event which might have been otherwise interesting was made so ludicrous by describing persons as having been "id be'ind a lot of hosiers," that to refrain from laughter was impossible. As the piece was composed expressly for the company, if the author knew the failing of him to whom the part was to be committed, he might have relieved him by writing "concealed in a withy bed," or "by a thicket of blackthorn," or puzzled him into some correctness by putting "hosiers" for "osiers," only then, perhaps, if the performer had forgotten the exact word, he might have substituted "'aber-dashers" for it.

This criticism by no means extends to the whole com-

pany; but the effect on the performance is very unfair to those who pronounce correctly, and, as evil communications corrupt good manners, the hearing the poor letter abused leads others occasionally into a similar error. As any one who can say "hosiers" must be able to say "hid," it is clear that by a little care and attention the offence might be removed, and with at least as much advantage to the offender as the performance, for the defect is always held to imply an imperfect education or habitual intercourse with vulgar persons. It should be borne in mind that correctness in common conversation must be the best security for its preservation under the excitement of acting. It is the province of the drama to teach, and those connected with it should take care that its teaching is sound.

It is only fair to Mr. Taylor to add that the play so good-naturedly criticized was one of local interest, specially written, and entitled *The Lover's Leap*. There were so many characters that it taxed the resources of the establishment, and all the supernumeraries had to lend their services. As I was one of Mr. Taylor's sureties I had no difficulty in obtaining a copy of the above, and Mr. Taylor was much gratified when he was told that it had been written by his noble patron.

THORNCLIFFE.

Buxton.

SOUTHPORT CHARACTERS SIXTY YEARS AGO.

[3,489.] The founder of Southport, Mr. Sutton, deserves to be first mentioned. He was commonly called Duke Sutton. He built the original hotel about a century ago. It was of wooden boards, and contained a long room, sometimes used as a church and sometimes as a dancing room. This Inn was called the Duke's Folly. He obtained his nickname thus:—A royal personage stayed awhile at the original hotel, and Sutton, proud of this, spoke so often of the Duke who had patronized his house that the neighbours called him Duke Sutton. He was a good musician, and could engrave letters very well on stone, and on his monument is a specimen of his abilities as a stonemason. He once had a dispute with the Rector of the parish about a payment due to him, and one Sunday afternoon, when the Duke had had a few glasses of rum after dinner, he went to church, and seeing the Rector (Mr. Ford) entering the church he cried out, "pay up." For this offence he was summoned and fined fifty shillings for brawling in church. He might have been fined twenty pounds, so he got off reasonably. His general conduct, however, was good. He lived to the age of

eighty-four. Mr. Sutton could have had a lease of Southport for three lives and twenty-one years, at the rate of three guineas and a half a year; and the rabbits would have made him more than £100 a year. Leasing the ground would have made him a handsome fortune. The houses in Southport are now worth two millions or more.

The next character was old Harry Rimmer. He rented a farm in Birkdale, and in the summer months he played the fiddle in his barn and sometimes on the green, to which the company danced, and they generally gave him silver on leaving and on shaking hands with him. So, although he was far from being a good musician, he obtained a good deal of money by playing "Buttered Peas" and the tune of "Lads Thrashing Barley."

Henry Aughton, the donkey driving botanist, was a noteworthy character. Hire his donkey for an hour and he would take you among the sandhills and describe the flowers. "This is the hound's tongue. The leaves are the shape of a dog's tongue; the flower is like velvet. This is the buckbean. It is a bitter, and its flowers are prettily feathered. This is the bindweed, or sea convolvulus. It is now nearly extinct at Southport. Its leaves are the shape of a spade, and as the flowers only last one day it may be called the Unitarian flower. The flowering rush may be found in this parish, and is a curiosity. The water violet fills many of these ditches, and makes a splendid appearance in the month of June." The botanic donkey driver thus instructed you and gave you a ride for sixpence. He had a son who was called Linnæus after the great botanist. Linnæus was a handsome youth, and quite a genius. He had a taste for making fireworks, and could play a duet with his lips. He died young.

A fourth character at Southport was Robert Wright, shopkeeper. He had a taste for astronomy, and made a telescope eight feet long that showed the four moons of Jupiter very plainly. He ground the glasses and formed the focuses himself. He had not seen a celestial globe, and yet knew many of the constellations. His plan was to get an Almanac and see at what time particular constellations came to the south, and then he knew the stars that belonged to them. Churchtown and neighbourhood have been noted for astronomers. Moses Holden, the lecturer, came from this part of the world. At Much Hoole, also, Jeremiah Horrocks, who discovered the transit of Venus, resided.

H. F.

Ormskirk.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE HAMILTON SUCCESSION AND THE DERBY FAMILY.

(Nos. 3,457, 3,467, and 3,482.)

[3,490.] I am obliged to Mr. DAGGATT for his courteous response to my query. He will, however, pardon me if I fail to see in his reply an explanation of the point of difference. Mr. DAGGATT contends that so long as descendants exist, whether male or female, of the fifth Duke of Hamilton, they succeed to the exclusion of the male descendants of the fifth Duke's younger brother. But why the fifth and not the sixth Duke, descendants from whom still exist in the female line and have been excluded from the succession? The terms of the Patent—which Mr. DAGGATT admits I have quoted correctly—expressly give the succession, failing heirs male of the body of the first Duke and his brother, “to the eldest heir female of the body of the first Duke and the *heirs male* of the body of such heir female.” I am quite aware that in Scotland a different interpretation is placed upon the term “heir female” when standing alone from that usually given to the same expression in England. “Heir-female” in Scotland does not necessarily, as with us, mean female heirs, but the heir of a female. In other words, as would be said in England, it denotes heir-general or heir of the line. In the Nairne Peerage Case, in 1874, Lord Chancellor Cairns definitely thus interpreted it and gave judgment accordingly. Whether the concluding part of the clause in the Patent “heirs male of the body of such heir female” would not in the Hamilton case limit the descent to the first Duke's daughters and their *male* issue is a point that is perhaps open to difference of opinion. The clause under which the Douglas family hold the Hamilton dignities can, I contend, be interpreted only in one of two ways, either as referring to the first Duke's eldest daughter and her issue male, or as to heirs of the line generally. If the first, then the succession must go to *all* the male descendants of Anne Duchess of Hamilton by Lord William Douglas, before, under the final clause in the Patent, females and their heirs can inherit. If the latter interpretation be correct, then Archibald, ninth Duke, succeeded wrongly in 1799, and the Earls of Derby have been, for the better part of a century, *de jure* Dukes of Hamilton.

The illustration quoted by Mr. DAGGATT of the succession to the throne of England is scarcely in point. A daughter or grand-daughter of the Prince

of Wales would unquestionably inherit in preference to an uncle, as did the Queen herself before her father's younger brother. But the succession would be as heir of the line to the whole Royal House. This is what has *not* happened with the Hamilton Peerage. So far the heir of the line has not inherited, but the heir male.

I am quite aware of the difficulty attending the succession to Scottish dignities. What with (to Englishmen) ambiguity of expression in the Patents of creation, cross decisions of the Courts, together with the peculiar custom of grant, resignation, and re-grant—the latter invariably with new limitations—it is often, failing direct heirs male, no easy matter to say to whom the succession should pass; and, apart from an authoritative decision, even venture some to express an opinion. Still the Hamilton dignities do not seem to present so many difficulties as surround certain others of our Scottish titles. There has been neither resignation nor re-grant affecting the original Patent, the terms of which still govern the succession. The sole difference between Mr. DAGGATT and myself is, as I understand it, the question between heirs male and heirs general. I believe the terms of the Patent favour the first interpretation, and it must be admitted that, so far, the actual succession lends countenance to my view.

W. D. PINK.

Leigh.

HATS AND BALDNESS.

(Query No. 3,485, May 17.)

[3,491.] Unlined hats have undoubtedly an injurious effect on the growth of the hair, the dust from the felt, which contains a variety of chemicals, closing the pores of the skin. But this effect is really slight when compared to the headaches and depression of spirits caused by the absence of silk linings, especially when the atmosphere is charged with electricity. The lining adds hardly anything to the weight of the hat, and prices remain the same, consequently there is no saving to the wearer.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Wallington, Surrey.

THE EGERTONS.

(Nos. 3,464 and 3,478.)

[3,492.] Kindly allow me to thank Mr. BURY for his letter. A few words left out of my MS. when copying from notes caused the mistake he pointed out. The notes alluding to the Egertons should read as follows:—A former baronet, Sir Thomas Egerton,

of Oulton, married a daughter and co-heir of Sir Ralph Assheton, of Middleton. A previous baronet, Sir John Egerton, married in 1684 a Miss Holland, of Heaton and Denton, who brought him extensive estates near Manchester, including Heaton Hall and Park.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

THE DE VERES.

(Nos. 3,464 and 3,480.)

[3,493.] In reply to "C. E. T." I beg to say that the family of De Vere, of Curragh Chase, Adare, county Limerick, are descendants of Henry Hunt, Esquire, of Gosfield, Essex (who had served the office of High Sheriff of that county), by his wife Jane De Vere, said to be of the noble house of Oxford. Henry Hunt's grandson, Vere Hunt, arrived in Ireland as an officer in Cromwell's army. His descendant, Vere Hunt, was created a baronet of Ireland December 4, 1784. His son, Sir Aubrey Hunt, born August 28, 1788, assumed by letters patent, dated March 15, 1832, the surname and arms of De Vere only. He had issue, amongst others, Sir Vere Edmond De Vere, present baronet, born October 12, 1808; Stephen Edward, barrister-at-law, born July 26, 1812; Aubrey Thomas, author of *The Waldenses* and other poems, born January 10, 1814.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

SAND FLIES.

(Query No. 3,471, May 8.)

[3,494.] The only remedy I know against fleas of any kind in the house during hot weather is to have the floors washed daily with soap and water and dispense with carpets and matting. Having had some years' experience of these pests in this country (Portugal) during the hot weather, nothing but daily washing the floors will make the rooms at all endurable. Sweeping is no use. They dodge the brush, and are as lively and numerous as ever. Insect powders and disinfectants they simply ignore, but they object to soap and water daily. Before adopting the latter plan we had on sitting down to place our feet upon another chair or the table so as to be out of range of all but the most athletic fleas. Even then, if you happened to read a newspaper they jumped about on the page before you as if the letters were having a resurrection. It was impossible to drink a cup of tea before several fleas had drowned themselves in it, and the beds were simply places of torture. Up to the present it is sufficient for us to

have the floors washed twice a week, but last week was the first really warm weather we have had this year.

JONATHAN RAINDL.

Cortes Pereira, Alcoutim,
Portugal, May 12.

QUERIES.

[3,495.] THE GREGS.—To which branch of the GREG family does the author of *Ivy* belong? Is he related to the family who have held high positions in the Russian service, or to the Manchester firm of that name?

M. A. E.

[3,496.] AUTHORSHIP OF HYMN.—Who is the author of the Hymn—

Thou knowest, Lord, the weariness and sorrow
Of the sad heart that comes to Thee for rest.

It appears in Bickersteth's Hymnal, with the initials H. L. L.?

ALIIQUIS.

Mr. Samuel Cousins, R.A., has at last been obliged—at the age of eighty-four—to retire from his profession, owing to failing eyesight. The *Pall Mall Gazette* describes him as the greatest English mezzotint engraver of our century. His last work is a portrait of himself, engraved from the painting by Mr. Edwin Long—a superb piece of work; probably no such refined and brilliant engraving was ever done with such aged eyes, not even with the eyes of Bartolozzi in Lisbon. The picture shows us Mr. Cousins seated before a clean plate of copper, and glancing quickly up, as if interrupted in the act of beginning his work. The eyes are particularly fine in execution.

ESTHWAITE LAKE.—In 1875, Lieutenant-Colonel Sandys obtained a verdict in the law courts declaring him to be the absolute owner of Esthwaite Water, the lake which lies in the valley between Windermere and Coniston. He accordingly took entire possession of the lake, and has allowed no boating or fishing upon it for over seven years. Satisfied at last with this exercise of his rights he has issued a notice in which he says: "I consider that I have now sufficiently marked my sense of the injustice of the attempt that was made to wrest from me my ancient rights in this property, and I have decided that, subject to certain conditions, boating and fishing shall now again be permitted upon the lake; always reserving to myself, and for those who shall succeed to me, the right to close the lake again to all, should I, or they, at any future time consider it needful to do so. In order to preserve the due enjoyment of the lake for those to whom permission to boat or fish is accorded, I have decided to place it under the charge of a keeper, and, that the expense of his wages may be at least partly borne by those for whose benefit he is placed there, I have decided to charge certain sums for licences to boat and for licences to fish to those to whom they may be granted, at the rates appended below." The cost of a licence to fish for trout and all other kinds of fish except eels is to be 2s. 6d. per rod per day, and for pike and perch only 1s. per rod per day.

Saturday, May 31, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SOUTHPORT CHARACTERS SIXTY YEARS AGO.

(Note No. 3,489, May 24.)

[3,497.] Amongst the Southport Characters of sixty years ago, H. F., of Ormakirk, mentions old Harry Rimmer. In a letter written by one of my relatives, July 31, 1826, after a visit to Southport, I find the following description of that eccentric individual and his son, "Young Nick." Perhaps it may interest your correspondent or some other of your readers. Unfortunately the first sheet of the letter is missing, or I might probably have been able to furnish some further particulars about Southport sixty years ago.

R. L.

As a visit to "Old Harry" is one of the principal attractions, I will try to picture to you (or rather you must picture to yourself) this wonderful character and the amusement his place affords. Fancy, then, a little old man, upon the verge of ninety-one years of age, sitting upon a three-legged stool under the shadow of a tree at one end of his green—or rather brown—sward. His feet just feeling the ground, are, together with his legs, kept in continual motion by the action of his body, which is caused by the exertion of both arms upon an unmercifully-scraped fiddle. His head, also, comes in for its share of the general commotion, and works away in all directions, being kept in countenance by the mouth and chin; and, in consequence of the former having lost its ivory inhabitants, the two most prominent features frequently come almost in contact with each other. So much for the father. Now for the son, a young hopeful of fifty summers. He it is who leads off the sprightly dance, almost always, as most of the young ladies who go there try to get "Young Nick" for a partner. But he likes to pick for himself, and invariably chooses one of the finest girls in the company. He is a bachelor and a stoutish built man, with broad features and an indented nose, as though it had been broken. He pretends not to be very sharp in his intellect, though he "knows what's what," as the old saying has it; and it is really laughable to see with what grace and elegance he tries to go through the figures, (?) which are his own, as he probably cannot dance any others. Indeed, I think it would be a difficult matter for any person to form one to the old man's tunes, although he professes to play a great number, amongst the rest "Drops of Brandy," "Off she goes," "Nancy Dawson," "Butter'd Peas," "'Tis nother here nor theer"—a fine selection, and worthy of the professor.

GOYT OR MERSEY.

(No. 3,474 and others.)

[3,498.] A few more opinions upon the subject, and then I think your readers will be prepared for the summing up of the question.

1711. Nicols, a rector of Stockport, writing in a Latin poem "De literis inventis," whilst describing the rectory and the town of Stockport, thus refers to the Mersey:—

Where the high bank of Mersey's stream appears,
A pleasant hill its summit gently rears,
Built by myself: On this my mansion stands,
And of the town a distant view commands;
More varied beauties this sweet view contains
Than all the charms of far-famed Tempe's plains.
Neat is the town, and in a pleasant site,
In all things rich for use and for delight.

Whitaker, in his *History of Manchester*, octavo edition, 1773, vol. 1, p. 200, when describing the ford of Stockport, says that it was about 200 yards above the present bridge of Stockport (Lancashire Bridge), and about sixty below the union of the Mersey and the Tame.

William Stopford, a native of Stockport and a relation of the writer, published, about the year 1800, an engraved map of Stockport and its environs, which shows the river to be named The Mersey for a considerable distance above the town, but as his map does not include Compstall it does not refer to the Etherow. A reduced copy of this map will appear in the final part of my *History of Stockport*.

1810. Marriott in his *Lyme and the Neighbourhood* page 37, says: "The Mersey, which is composed of the streams of the Goyt from the Derbyshire hills and the Etherow, unite themselves below Marple Bridge. . . From Chadkirk the River Mersey takes its course westerly to the town of Stockport."

1835. In the map of Stockport published by Parliament, with the description of the corporate towns after the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, the Mersey is shown to flow through the entire town. A copy of this map was issued in part 1 of the *History of Stockport*.

The Government surveys also all describe the Mersey as being formed by the junction of the Goyt with the Etherow, and many Directories incline either to the first or the second proposition, but it is a well-known fact that in the compilation of local surveys, directories, and encyclopædias, inquiries are generally made from some prominent person, but

whose information is frequently imperfect, and therefore not to be relied upon.

A large number of other opinions might be added, but it appears to me to be unnecessary, and I shall, now content myself with giving the chief reasons which have led me to the conclusions at which I have arrived.

With respect to the Mersey beginning at Portwood Bridge in the town of Stockport, with all due deference to my highly esteemed friend Mr. Grindon, with whose opinions upon most questions I most cordially agree, and to his very respectable authority the late Mr. Shipman, I submit that I have found no sufficient authority as yet to induce me to agree with him on this point.

The name of Goite Hall has been frequently adduced as an argument to prove that the name of the river Goyt should be continued to Stockport. It must be remembered, however, that the township of Bredbury was anciently divided into two parts, the one held by the Ardernes, whose residences were at Stockport and Harden, and the other by the Davenports of Henbury, having Goite Hall, at the other end of the township, as their family home. The Ardernes purchased the Davenport portion, and afterwards held manorial courts for the whole under the name of The Manor of Bredbury-cum-Goite, and in the description of the properties of Lord Alvanley sold in 1825, which comprised nearly 2,000 acres of land in this township, the river is called throughout The River Mersey or Goyte.

It may be as well here to refer to two old documents which have considerable bearing on this question:—The first is the perambulation of the boundaries of Macclesfield Forest made in 1619, in the reign of King James the First, which contains the following clause:—

They (the jury) say, that the circuit of the said Forest of Macclesfield begins at a certain bridge now called Otterspoole Bridge, and formerly called Roheboundesbrigg, and so ascending the water of Mersey as far as the water of Guyte, and ascending the water of Guyte as far as certain mosses lying between the water of Guyte and the water of Dane Mosse.

The other document is much older: it is the ancient charter by which Sir Robert de Stokeport granted, between the years 1209 and 1228, the Township of Marple to his brother-in-law, Sir William de Vernon. The places mentioned are difficult to localize, but the references to the rivers and the boundaries of Marple,

as given in this charter, clearly show that the river above Stockport even at that early age was known as the Mersey as high as the junction of the Goyt. The clause is as follows:—

Within these limits from Hiderlektop on the Mersey, going up as far as the Goyt, and then going up the Goyt as far as Wibberlektop and from Wibberlektop as far as the great highway, and then going down the great highway as far as Kartelache, and then coming down from Kartelache as far as Hiderlektop and then coming down Hiderlektop as far as the Mersey.

There is little possibility, from modern nomenclature, to state the exact spot where Hiderlektop was placed—most probably it was about Otterspoole Bridge; from thence the line would extend along the river as high as Compstall, being the boundary between Marple and Werneth, and then along the Goyt, the boundary between Marple and Derbyshire, as high as the Strines, and thence to Wibbersley; yet it is sufficiently clear to show that the portion of the river, at least until the junction of the Goyt, was, even at that early period, known as the Mersey.

Now with respect to the origin of the Mersey at the Water Meetings below Compstall. More than 300 years ago, after personal survey of the country, the name of Mersey was applied to this river from its very rise at Salter's Brook House, an opinion confirmed by subsequent surveys, and which remained unquestioned for more than 200 years. Then, probably owing to some local circumstances, the name Etherow was originated, and its use has been strengthened by the necessity of the localization of this portion of the river in consequence of its having been adopted by the Manchester Corporation for its water supply.

Notwithstanding this, in accordance with ancient usage, and in deference to the opinion of the early geographers, it appears to me to be correct to say that the origin of the Mersey is at Salter's Brook, near Woodhead, and that it is entitled to that name not only to the Water Meetings below Compstall, but to the whole of its course.

Stockport.

HENRY HEGINBOTHAM.

THE EGERTONS.

(Nos. 3,464, 3,478, and 3,492.)

[3,499.] Mr. DAGGATT's account is still incorrect. It was Sir Thomas Egerton of Heaton, not of Oulton, who married Eleanora Assheton of Middleton. He was created Earl of Wilton, whilst the Egertons of Oulton still run on a line of baronets. JAMES BURY.

AUTHORSHIP OF HYMN.

(Query No. 3,496, May 24.)

Thou knowest, Lord, the weariness and sorrow
Of the sad heart that comes to Thee for rest.

[3,500.] Mr. G. J. Stevenson, M.A., in his notes on the new Wesleyan Hymn Book, says that this hymn is the composition of Miss Jane Borthwick, of Edinburgh. For a generation past this lady has kept her name unknown excepting by the initials H. L. L. Aided by her sister, she published in 1854 *Hymns from the Land of Luther*, translated from the German, a work which became popular. This work furnished the initials above referred to.

W. BLACKSTOCK.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPERS.

(Nos. 3,469 and 3,481.)

[3,501.] In the British Museum there is to be seen a copy of *The English Mercurie*, 1588: "imprinted at London by Christopher Barker, Her Majesty's printer." There is little doubt, as Mr. DUNKERLEY says in his interesting note, that this specimen is spurious. The letters and spelling are of the next century. One of the first English newspapers not mentioned by Mr. DUNKERLEY was the *Mercurius Aulicus*, printed and published in Oxford once a week and sometimes oftener, from 1642 to 1645. Its chief author was John Birkenhead, who for this and other services was knighted in 1662 by Charles II. An earlier newspaper than any of those mentioned by Mr. DUNKERLEY was the *Journal à un sou Bulletin de la Grande Armée*, dated 1494, and purporting to bring news from the Neapolitan expedition of Charles VIII. It was hawked about the streets of Paris, and the proof-sheets are still preserved in the town library of Nantes.

F. LEABY.

THE MACPHERSONS.

(Nos. 3,457 and 3,483.)

[3,502.] Your correspondent "J. P." in criticising Mr. C. Daggatt's communication on the above subject, says "it is simply an old wife's tale" to say that Macpherson means son of a parson. If so the "old wife" was better informed on this point than "J. P." I have not been able to see a copy of *The Highlanders of Scotland*, by William F. Skene, F.S.A., which "J. P." cites, but I can refer him to another work by the same author, *Celtic Scotland*, in vol. iii., page 316 of which he will find that the author, speaking of Gillichattan Mor, refers to his great grandson Muireach (the parson) as being the name-

father of the clan, who during his chiefship were called Clann-Mhuirich and Clan Chattan. Ewen bàn, son of Muireach the parson, was called Mac-à-Phearsain, or Son of the Parson, and surnames becoming hereditary about this time, it became the distinguishing appellation of his posterity. This was in the year 1152, or about three hundred years before "J. P." allows of the clan bearing this name. Further, there never has been a chief of Clan Chattan named Ferchar, from Gillichattan Mor, the first chief, down to Cluny Macpherson, C.B., the present chief and twentieth in lineal descent. "J. P." must have got hold of one of the dependent Septs of the Macphersons and formed his own name-theory.

DONALD D. MACPHERSON.

Cheetham Hill.

QUERIES.

[3,503.] FISHING ANECDOTES.—Is there any attainable volume of anecdotes relating to fishing, and by whom published?

PISCATOR.

[3,504.] OXFORD PROFESSORS OF POETRY.—Would some one furnish a list of the professors of poetry at Oxford University, or say where such may be seen?

IOTA.

[3,505.] ST. MARY'S CHARITY.—In St. Mary's Churchyard, Manchester, is an inscription as follows: "Martha, wife of Richard Hartley, died March the 3rd, 1781, aged 70, first schoolmistress to St. Mary's Charity. Richard Hartley, died 19th November, 1786, aged 81 years, first schoolmaster of St. Mary's Charity." Can any reader give any particulars of the above charity, when and by whom was it founded, and is it still carried on? References to newspapers or books will be esteemed.

J. LEIGH.

[3,506.] AUTHORSHIP OF HYMNS.—Who is the author of hymns:—

1. O Thou who did'st the temple fill.
2. Redeemed from guilt, redeemed from fears.
3. Shall this life of mine be wasted?
4. Sweet evening hour.
5. The twilight falls, the night is near.
6. Thy way is in the deep, O Lord.
7. Unheard, the dews around me fall.
8. We praise, we bless Thee.
9. Hark! 'tis the watchman's cry.
10. Little children, wake and listen.

These are wanted for a work in preparation.

CIVIS.

Saturday, June 7, 1880.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE MACPHERSONS.

(Nos. 3,457, 3,483, and 3,502.)

[3,507.] In disputing J. P.'s derivation of this name, Mr. Donald D. Macpherson says that his surname means "son of a parson," and that it originated about the year 1152. Surely the Parson of those days was a Roman Catholic Priest, and as such must of necessity have been a celibate. Does Mr. Macpherson then prefer to be considered of illegitimate origin, or to date the Reformation before 1152?

VICINUS.

TROMBONE.

(Query No. 3,462, April 26.)

[3,508.] I sent a cutting of F. S. A.'s query to Dr. J. A. H. Murray, the editor of the great English Dictionary, in order that he might record, on the authority of Mrs. Radcliffe, the use of the word trombone, not only as a musical instrument but as a kind of weapon. Dr. Murray writes me that trombone in the same sense occurs in the novelist Richardson's *Sir Charles Grandison*, vol. iii., p. 258, a fact which F. S. A. will doubtless be pleased to know.

J. H. N.

FLEAS.

(Nos. 3,471 and 3,494.)

[3,509.] With regard to the plague of fleas, I entered a new house some years ago, and the annoyance caused by these insects was almost as great as that described by your correspondent, Mr. RAINDEL. I was advised to try wormwood, a plant which may be easily obtained in Shudehill Market by giving the order to any of the country-women there, who will bring it the next market day. My house fairly swarmed with fleas, but after placing the plant in and under the beds and in other places, not one could be found.

T. W. G.

OXFORD PROFESSORS OF POETRY.

(Query No. 3,504, May 31.)

[3,510.] Your correspondent IOTA, will find a complete list of the occupants of the chair of Poetry in the University of Oxford, from the time of its foundation in 1708, on p. 96 of the Honours Register of the University of Oxford, 1883, published by the Clarendon Press. It would occupy too much space to give the list in full, particularly as so many of the

names are quite unknown to fame. I may mention, however, that the present holder of the professorship is Principal Shairp of St. Andrew's. His immediate predecessors have been Sir Francis Doyle, appointed in 1867; Matthew Arnold, in 1857; Thomas Claughton, the present Bishop of St. Albans, in 1852; one Garbett, Fellow of B.N.C., in 1842; Keble in 1831; and Milman, formerly Dean of St. Paul's, in 1821. For the other names I must refer IOTA to the book mentioned above.

J. S. SEATON.

Pembroke College, Oxford.

BULLOCK SMITHY.

(Nos. 3,451 and 3,459.)

[3,511.] Among some of the ancient deeds (part of my collection), which I showed to Mr. Earwaker a short time ago, was one which, acting on that gentleman's suggestion, I have pleasure in bringing to the notice of those of your correspondents who take an interest in the etymology of the above place-name. By a lease dated May 1, 1560, and made "betwene John Torkenton of Torkenton w'in the Countie of Chester gentleman of thon ptie [the one part] and Richard Bullock of Torkenton afforesaid blacke Smyth of thother ptye," Mr. Torkenton leased to this Richard Bullock, the smith, for twenty-one years, "All that his messuage and ten[emen]te and also a Smethye therto belongyng w[ith] all and singular theyre app[ur]tenances sett [situate] lyenge and beinge in Torkenton afforesaid and now in the tenure holding and occupacon of the said Richard Bullock."

Here we have, therefore, for at least twenty-one years, a veritable "Bullock's Smithy"—and that in the same part of the county as the modern "Hazel Grove."

On the first February, 1609, I find the freehold reversion in the above smithy to be vested in "Richard Wilbraham of Wichmalbanke [Northwich] in the Countie of Chester gent," who, on that date, demises the "Smythie" (which was, it appears, "nowe or late in the tenure . . . of Nycholas Heginbothom") to "Randle Heginbothom and George Heginbothom, sonnes of Nycholas Heginbothom, of Marple, in the countie of Chester, yoman," for "fowerscore and tenn yeares," or the lives of the two Heginbothoms and of Nicholas, "sonn of Antonie Heginbothom, of Marple, aforesaid," or of the survivor of them.

The small estate, comprising the Smithy and a farm (then known as "Heginbothom's farme"), in 1651 belonged, I learn from later deeds, to the family

of Wrights of Offerton (Cheshire); and, in the following year, was sold by the Wrights to "George Higginbothom of Torkinton, Yeoman," who was in possession, as owner, in 1662.

I propound no theory on the question under discussion in your columns: I am only a modest witness who leaves to the advocates the task of putting the proffered evidence in the most advantageous form (in conjunction with other facts already known to them) before those judges whom they are respectively desirous of convincing. Have not I, however, found a clue which is worth pursuing?

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

ST. MARY'S CHARITY.

(Query No. 3,505, May 31.)

[3,512.] The charity which a century ago was called "St. Mary's Charity," is that now known as the "Green School," so called from the colour of the children's dress; or "Mrs. Hinde's charity." The foundress was Ann, the second of the five daughters of William Page, a Manchester merchant, who was buried at the Collegiate Church of Manchester in 1668. She was baptized at the Collegiate Church 21st October, 1660, when she must have been six years old; the tablet to her memory, at the eastern corner of the nave of the cathedral, testifying that "she died in the year 1724. aged 70." She was married at Blackley, Sept. 14, 1682, to the Rev. John Hinde, M.A., afterwards a Fellow of the Collegiate Church. By her will, dated Feb. 11, 1723, she gives several houses in "the Fennel-street," Manchester, and also a parcel of land in Salford (afterwards sold for £1,764, and forming the site or part of it on which the New Bailey Prison was built), and directs that the rents and interest shall be applied "towards teaching and instructing twenty poor children, ten whereof to be inhabitants within the town of Manchester, and the other ten to be inhabitants of the township of Stretford." Half the number are to be boys, and half to be girls, and they are to be children whose parents have no relief from their parish. She directs that they shall "be taught to write and to read until they can read perfectly any chapter in the Bible." She gives minute particulars as to the dress to be provided for her scholars, but this, fortunately for those who have to wear it in our day, has been considerably modified both in cut and in shade of green,

and concludes "It is my will and my desire and request to my trustees that they take care that the said boys and girls do publickly say their catechism in the Collegiate Church of Manchester, and the chapel of Stretford upon some Sunday every year."

The Manchester scholars were formerly attached to St. Mary's Church and School, but, more than half a century ago, they were removed to St. John's, where they still remain. There are now about sixty children educated by this charity, but only a third of that number are clothed. All the scholars attend the church at Stretford on the Wednesday before Ascension Day every year, and are there publicly catechized in the presence of some of the trustees, and are afterwards provided with a good dinner. The day—a red-letter one in the village—is known as "Gentlemen's Day," i.e., the day on which the gentlemen from Manchester—the trustees—pay their annual visit to Stretford. The present trustees are Mr. Chancellor Christie, Mr. Thomas Hornby Birley, of Summerville, Pendleton, and Mr. Henry Mere Ormerod. Further information on the subject may be gleaned from Procter's *Memorials of Manchester Streets*; and also from an elaborate and interesting memoir of its author, written by Mr. J. E. Bailey, F.S.A., and prefixed to a reprint (1877) of *The School Candidates*, "a prosaic burlesque occasioned by the election of a schoolmaster at the village of Stretford, 18th January, 1788." The author of this amusing and curious book was a Salford worthy, Henry Clarke, LL.D., one of the most eminent mathematicians of his time, who in the year 1788 was an unsuccessful candidate for the post of teacher to the rising generation (including Mrs. Hinde's scholars) of Stretford. I have never been able to find out why this benefactress left half her bounty to Stretford; she does not appear to have had any connection with the township either by family ties or by property. Mrs. Hinde's property in Fennel-street, was, unfortunately, sold, and the entire trust now consists of £4,097. 5s., invested in the Three per Cent Consols.

DAVID KELLY.

Stretford.

QUERIES.

[3,513.] MANCHESTER JOURNALS.—Particulars wanted of the following periodicals: Prescott's *Manchester Journal* and the *Manchester Herald*, both published towards the end of last century. F.

[3,514.] **THE DE VERES.**—Perhaps some of your correspondents who have written on this family could explain who was the Lady Vere who was buried at Manchester on the 25th May, 1633, according to the entry in the parish register:—"The Right Wor^{ll} the Ladie Veare deceased at Mr. Hopwoodes in ye Mylngate."
J. E. B.

THE ROMANS IN WESTMORLAND.—In 1879, during the restoration of the church of St. Michael's, at Brough, in Westmorland, a sepulchral stone bearing an inscription was discovered in the walls of the old porch. Brough was the *Verterae* of the Romans, a station on the road from Carlisle to York. The inscription on the stone has just been deciphered by Professor A. H. Sayce, aided by Dr. Isaac Taylor, and the former states in the *Academy* that the characters are those of early Greek uncial manuscripts. They are not earlier than A.D. 400, or later than A.D. 600; and, since the inscription contains no allusion to anything Christian, it would seem to have been engraved before the Christianization of the North. Professor Sayce furnishes the following translation, the blanks showing the portions obliterated:—"On the 16th day of the month Idon was prematurely buried with lamentations, Hermês, the descendant of Kommagên, Filibiôtos, a wayfarer. Farewell, thou boy, from off the way, although along mortal life thou crawlest. Through the exceeding swiftness of thy target, when thou wentest against Kimôê—ngê . . . the boy Hermês . . ." Mr. Sayce adds that "the historical bearings of the inscription are of great interest. The names mentioned in it are Keltic, and yet the corrupt Greek in which it is written must have been a spoken dialect. This is shown by the phonetic spelling, the bad grammar, the new grammatical forms, and, above all, the Keltic-Latin embodied in it; while it is obvious that a mortuary inscription of this sort was intended to be read and understood. Here, therefore, we have Kelts occupying what had once been a Roman military station, and speaking a corrupt Greek; and this, too, probably at the close of the fifth century, at all events subsequently to the departure of the Romans from Britain, but before the Anglian conquest of Westmorland or the Christianization of the district. I would suggest that a Roman official of Greek nationality had intermarried with a native family at *Verterae*, and that the latter, after the severance of Britain from the Empire, succeeded to the duties and privileges of their Roman kinsman, and continued the use of the Greek language, at any rate for a generation or two. The Greek officials served in Britain in the closing period of the Roman Empire is clear from the existence of names like *Gerontios* or *Geraint*. In any case, the Brough stone throws a curious and unexpected ray of light upon that dark epoch when the hapless Britons were contending for life and home against their barbarian invaders."

Saturday, June 14, 1884.

NOTES.

COLONEL BLOOD.

[3,515.] It is not generally known that the Lady Colin Campbell, who has lately become somewhat prominent, is an Irish lady. Her father, Mr. Blood, is a landowner in county Clare, and a direct descendant of the Colonel who got into a "little difficulty" in the time of King Charles the Second about the crown jewels. There is no accounting for taste, but the Bloods of the present day are said to be extremely proud of their descent from the notorious Colonel.

C. D.

THE HERMIT OF LATHOM.

[3,516.] Robert Swarsbrick, the hermit, was born in 1740 and died in the year 1824. When a young man he was deeply in love with a damsel who jilted him and married another. He declared he would never marry, but would be a hermit for the rest of his life. There is a pleasant green walk that leads from Cross Hall to Blythe Hall on the left, and to Lathom Hall on the right. This is called the Ladies' Walk, and on a beautiful evening it is much frequented. At the bottom of this walk Robert Swarsbrick chose his first hermitage. There are oil paintings of it in existence. It was a thatched octagon building with only one room. Here he lived for some time. There are now twenty tall trees growing where the hermit once had his residence. After a while the family at Lathom House granted him an acre of ground opposite the Wood in the New Park, and a house was built called the Bachelor's Whim or Hermitage. It had only two rooms, one below and one upstairs, but behind there was a hot-house with the Passion Flower, the Clematis, and the Vine. At the entrance of the cot there was an oil painting of a Pilgrim, life size. In the interior were framed pictures of several saints, for Robert was a Roman Catholic. The Hermit had a flute more than a hundred years old. He once had a tame Redbreast in his garden that would perch upon his shoulder and eat out of his hand. It was his wish to be buried in his garden beneath a favourite tree, and a gentleman composed

an epitaph and had it painted on a black board. It began with the words:—

Beneath these lofty oaks and towering pines,
Swarsbrick, in peace, thy mortal part reclines.

Another epitaph was written by another poet, beginning:—

Here lie the ashes of Robert the Hermit,
If you won't believe it his friends will confirm it.

Robert had a quarto printed book with large margin, on which he scribbled his remarks and his poetry, but he was a much better gardener than poet. After the Hermit's death in 1824 some of his relatives were opposed to his being buried in the garden. In consequence he was interred behind the Church at Ormskirk, and a stone tells that he was a hermit, aged eighty-four years. The Hermitage has long been pulled down, the fruit trees are gone, and the acre of ground is added to the neighbouring farm.

H. F. (an octogenarian.)

Ormskirk.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER JOURNALS.

(Query No. 3,513, June 7.)

[3,517.] The first number of Prescott's *Manchester Journal* was printed and published by John Prescott in Old Millgate, March 23, 1771. The price was twopence. It shared the fate of its predecessor, leaving the *Mercury* the entire possession of the field till Mr. Charles Wheeler began the *Chronicle* on Saturday, June 23, 1781. John Prescott, printer of the *Manchester Journal*, died near Leigh, April 13, 1811, aged seventy-nine.

The *Manchester Herald*, No. 1, March 31, 1792, was printed and published by Messrs. M. Faulkner and Birch, in the Market Place, price 3½d. The premises were destroyed by a political mob, December 10. It ceased March 23, 1793. The following curious handbill was circulated:—"Violent Dissolution, being the exit of Mons. Herald, of Manchester, a near relative to Mons. Argus, of London, who expired on Saturday last, to the great regret of the Jacobins and Painites, but particularly to the Black Cat." It advocated Liberal principles, and so its publishers became the objects of persecution. They were obliged to find refuge in a foreign land.

FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

Crumpsall.

THE MACPHERSONS.

(No. 3,507 and others.)

[3,518.] It is always a delicate matter to make a joke on a person's name, particularly a Celt's, but I think VICINUS deserves the thanks of the Macpherson race for saving them from their fellow-clansman's attempt to question the legitimacy of the founder of their clan.

In the *City News* of the 31st May Mr. Donald D. Macpherson refers me to Skene's *Celtic Scotland*, vol. iii., page 316, to prove his assertion that "Muireach (the parson)" was the name of the father of the clan. I have the work in my library, and on referring to the page in question I find Muireach certainly, but the word "parson" is absent. One would suppose, from Mr. Macpherson's letter, that Muireach was Gaelic for parson, or at any rate, a corruption of it, whereas there is not the least ground for supposing that Muireach—which, by-the-bye, is Gaelic for leprous—had anything particular to do with any parson, who spoke English at any rate.

Skene's work above referred to is a most learned one, and on reference to it, it will be seen that the names of Ferchar and Ferchard were family names among the descendants of the kings of Dalriada. Fearchar fata, an ancestor of the Clan Chattan and of the Macphersons, died as far back as 697, A.D. Skene, in his *History of Scotland*, says that in the great fight in 1396 on the Inch of Perth, which Sir Walter Scott has made so memorable in the *Fair Maid of Perth*, the head of the Clan Heth or Sha (the ancient name of the Macphersons) was Sha Fercharson, who probably took the name from his grandfather Ferchar. I have not got hold "of one of the dependent septs of the Macphersons" in the sense Mr. Macpherson means. This clan was not always independent, being at one time dependent on the Macintoshes; but I am on dangerous ground, and will finish, lest you have the whole of the Clan Chattan down on you, each, like Harry Smith of the Wynd, "fighting for his own hand—i.e., for the honour of his own sept."

J. P.

* * *

Your correspondent VICINUS must not have read my account of the Macphersons correctly, or he would have noticed that the "parson" alluded to obtained a dispensation from the Pope to marry; therefore his children cannot fairly be termed illegitimate.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

QUERIES.

[3,519.] **BANK TOP.**—What part of London Road, Manchester, was formerly known as Bank Top? Where did it begin and end? W. DRABBLE.

[3,520.] **CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO SOUTHPORT.**—I shall be obliged by information as to the best roads for a tricycle ride between Manchester and Southport; also distance, and probable average time in which the journey can be completed. R. R. R.

[3,521.] **PORTRAITS AT THE ROYAL INFIRMARY.** Can any of your readers inform me by what artists the following portraits in the Royal Infirmary were painted, namely, William Yates, Esq.; Henry Worrall, Esq.; and Dr. Samuel Argent Bardsley? When was the latter painted or presented, and who was the donor? W. L. S.

UNBELIEVERS IN FRANCE.—Before the census of 1881 it had been usual in France to class all persons who declined to state what was their religion, or who stated that they had no religion, as Roman Catholics. In 1881, persons "who declined to make any declaration of religious 'belief'" were enumerated as such, with the result that there were upwards of seven and a half millions who registered themselves under that head, against twenty-nine millions of Roman Catholics.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

DOCTORS IN AUSTRALIA.—Although in Sydney there is no lack of experienced medical men, it is otherwise in the remote country districts, and it is not uncommon to come across advertisements in the Sydney papers, notifying the existence of promising openings for doctors willing to rough it for a few years, until the district becomes sufficiently populated to make their position one of a highly lucrative nature. Medical students desirous of emigrating to New South Wales should keep before them the possibility of having to seek their fortunes under such circumstances, which certainly are not severer, although more full of promise, than those which are often found surrounding the early career of medical men in many parts of England.

EXTINCTION OF LEAD MINING.—Lead mining in Great Britain bids fair to become an extinct industry; with the price of ore at £8, instead of £10 and £12, as it used to be, the mines are rapidly closing. In the principality of Wales, for example, there are not above four mines, out of about a hundred and forty, making any profit just now; the rest are more or less under water below ground, and in liquidation above. The cause of the low price of lead is due to the immense importations from Spain; the lead ores of that country are rich in silver, which metal, it is said, pays not only a profit on its own extraction, but also covers the total cost of mining and melting. It is evident, therefore, that the successful competition of the British with the Spanish lead ores is impossible.

Saturday, June 21, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

(Nos. 3,513 and 3,517.)

[3,522.] Referring to the Query under this heading, the following note of a book included in a catalogue before me, may be of service:—

Manchester Metrical Records of Manchester in which its History is traced (currente calamo) from the Earliest Times, by the Editor of the *Manchester Herald*, published in London in 1822. C. T. T.-B.

CYCLISTS' ROUTE TO SOUTHPORT.

(Query No. 3,520, June 14.)

[3,523.] The usual road to Southport is by Worsley, Tyldesley, Hindley, Wigan, Upholland, Skelmersdale, and Ormskirk. Distance about thirty-eight miles. Can be easily ridden in a short day, say about seven hours, including an hour for dinner. The road is continuously bad, a disgrace to civilization, being composed almost entirely of an extraordinary mixture of various kinds of the most villainous pavement, including miles of large sandstone setts, and many weary miles of cobbles. I should hardly advise R. R. R. to attempt it, unless he is a rough rider, has a strong machine, and takes a delight in facing and overcoming difficulties.

I have never been by any but the direct way, but if R. R. R. has the whole of a summer's day to spare, I should advise him to go round by Preston. To Bolton there are strips of macadam, and the pavement is good; beyond that town, through Chorley to Preston, the road is macadam nearly all the way. Then go down the Ormskirk road, which is a splendid road, about ten miles, and turn to the right at the first likely place. I remember guide posts on this road which were marked Southport; he cannot be here more than ten miles from that place, and whatever the road is it cannot be worse than the other. The entire distance by this route will not be much over fifty miles. If he can find a road across from Bamber Bridge to Farrington, from which place there is a good road to Penwortham, he can avoid Preston if he wishes. W. BINNS.

Salford.

THE EGERTON FAMILY.

(Nos. 3,464, 3,478, 3,492, and 3,499.)

[3,524.] Mr. BURY states, in 3,499, that "it was Sir Thomas Egerton of Heaton, not of Oulton, who married Miss E. Assheton, of Middleton. He was created Earl of Wilton, whilst the Egertons of Oulton still run on a line of baronets." In my notes I said,

"Sir Thomas Egerton, of Oulton, married a daughter and co-heir of Sir Ralph Assheton, of Middleton." I quoted from the patent which conferred the baronetcy on Sir Rowland Egerton, of "Egerton and Oulton," in 1617. The Sir Thomas Egerton who married Miss Assheton certainly *resided* at Heaton, as his ancestors (baronets) had done from the time that estate came into their possession, but he was nevertheless of "Egerton and Oulton," although as a matter of fact a younger branch of the family resided at Oulton—merely esquires. This younger branch, in the person of John Egerton, Esq., succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his kinsman, Sir Thomas Egerton, created Earl of Wilton, and who died without male issue. The new baronet assumed by royal licence the additional surname of Grey—to mark his descent from that noble family, the first baronet having married the sister to the last Lord Grey of that line, and became Sir John Grey-Egerton, the eighth baronet. He died in 1825, when the baronetcy devolved upon his brother Philip, whose descendant continues the title.

I may say that I have had some correspondence with Mr. BURY on this question; and I beg to express my indebtedness to that gentleman for several bits of information on the subject that he and I, and no doubt many of your readers, are interested in, namely, historical names and titles.

CHARLES DAGGATT.

QUERIES.

[3,525.] **AUTHORSHIP OF POEM.**—Who was the author of a humorous poem entitled "How the Vicar became Dean," and where can a copy of the poem be met with?

PHIL.

[3,526.] **ST. MARY'S CHURCH.**—The *Manchester Historical Recorder*, under date 1756, says:—"St. Mary's Church, situated between the River Irwell and the higher part of Deansgate, consecrated Sept. 29. It is a neat Doric edifice with a spire steeple 186 feet high, universally and deservedly admired. The ornamental pulpit in this church was the gift of the congregation to the Rev. John Gatcliffe, M.A., fellow of the Coll. Ch., then Rector, and the organ was the gift of the late Holland Ackers, Esq." When was the pulpit presented to the Rev. J. Gatcliffe (rector 1804-43), and when was the organ given by H. Ackers? Can anyone give the names of the owners of the pews at the opening of the above church, or any owners of pews afterwards?

J. LEIGH.

Saturday, June 28, 1884.

NOTES.

BOOTH, CHIEF JUSTICE IN IRELAND.

[3,527.] I am sending to *Notes and Queries* (London) the following:—"The Right Hon. Sir Robert Booth, Knt., who (knighted at Whitehall, the 15th May, 1668,) appears to have been a puzzle to Le Neve, was, temp. Charles II., Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland. He was eldest son of Robert Booth, of Salford, Esquire (Bencher of Gray's Inn); was educated at the Manchester Grammar School (under Mr. Bridoque, afterwards Bishop of Chichester), and at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he was admitted September 20, 1644, at the age of nineteen. He became a member of Gray's Inn; and, after being one of the Justices of the Court above-mentioned, was appointed Chief Justice—probably in 1668. I have full (unpublished) particulars of his ancestry, as also particulars of the Salford and neighbouring properties in which he was interested, including the right of presentation to Trinity Chapel, Salford, founded by his grandfather. He was married twice—I am not sure which was his earlier marriage—viz.:—to Mary, dau. of Spencer Fotts, of Chalgrove, co. Bedford, Esquire; and to Susan, eldest dau. of Henry Oxenden, of Dene, co. Kent, Esquire, afterwards (in 1678) created a Baronet. Sir Robert is incidentally mentioned by Gwillim in connection with the family arms. (By the way, What was this herald's authority for stating that the Judge was descended from the knightly Booths of Dunham-Massey?) Can any of your correspondents refer me to a 'Life' or particular account of the Judge, and also to the *original* authorities as to which was his earlier marriage, and as to whether it was by his wife Susan alone that he had issue? A full abstract of his will would be of value. I am aware of one printed pedigree but that is, to say the least, not conclusive."

I may add in these columns the following particulars:—Sir Robert was baptized at our Collegiate Church, the Second of July, 1628; was living in Salford in (among other years, I presume,) 1647, 1653, and 1659. He (while a puisne Judge of the above-mentioned Court) in 1666 joined with his younger brother, Humphrey, in appointing the Rev. John Hyde to the curacy of Trinity Chapel. In a deed now before me, dated in 1674, he is described as Chief Justice

as above, and as a Privy Councillor in Ireland. The younger brother is ancestor of the Gore-Booths, Baronets, domiciled in Ireland. Any unpublished particulars of the family will be gladly welcomed by me.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

USE OF "DUSK" FOR "DARKEN."

(Query No. 3,808, November 24, 1883).

[3,528.] M. K. inquired whether any writer other than the Laureate had used the word "dusk" in the sense of "darken." It appears from the *Academy* of last Saturday that Lord Tennyson has sent a note to a correspondent upon the line in "The Lady of Shalott" where the word is so used. He says:—" 'Little breezes *dusk* and shiver' may be taken to mean *darken* and shiver—the light and shade playing upon water in a light that is fitful." From this it may be inferred that the Laureate has availed himself of the privilege or licence customarily allowed to poets to employ a word in an entirely new fashion, provided that he can at the same time accurately convey his meaning. Lord Tennyson's use of "dusk" as a verb is almost certainly unique. J. H. N.

BANK TOP.

(Query No. 3,519, June 14.)

[3,529.] Mr. Edwin Waugh, in his *Roads Out of Manchester*, says:—

We know what occupies the ground now—we know that the modern town stretches almost a mile beyond what was the town-end a century ago—and it is curious to see in the maps of that time, that almost all beyond the White Bear Inn, at the top of Market-street, was open fields, and groves and gardens: at that time the ground on the left-hand side of Bank Top, before we come to the London Road Station, is a woodland spot, set down as "Shooter's Brow"; and the line of the Medlock, a little west of Downing-street, is called "Shooter's Brook," in the same map.

Mr. DRABBLE will find the name Bank Top in the map reproduced by Lewis with the Directory for 1788.

FREDERICK LAWRENCE TAVARE.

PORTRAITS AT THE INFIRMARY.

(Query No. 3,521, June 14.)

[3,530.] It is rather saddening to reflect that there are at least five portraits in the Royal Infirmary the painters of which are unknown; also that one of the subjects is unknown, and the other doubtful. One of the two last-named may possibly be the portrait of Dr. Samuel Argent Bardsley, concerning which

inquiry is made by W. L. S. In addition to the likenesses of Henry Worrall and William Yates, mentioned by W. L. S., there is one of Robert Thorp, F.R.C.S., which was presented to the Infirmary by Mr. James Hatton. Its artist is unknown. Mr. Worrall was treasurer of the Infirmary from 1786 to 1792, and it is probable that his portrait may have been presented after his retirement from office. Now I should strongly advise the authorities of the Infirmary, through their secretary, Mr. W. L. Saunders (who seems to be taking an interest in the matter), to have these works examined by Mr. Robert Crozier, the president of the Manchester Academy of Art, Mr. William Percy, and Mr. Joseph R. Taylor, the "expert," of Brazenose-street. These gentlemen would doubtless be able to arrive at some approximate conclusion as to the painters of the portraits; and, in any event, their report would be worth having. Whilst on this subject, I may add that there are three portraits in the Athenæum, of Mr. James Heywood, F.R.S., Sir Elkanah Armitage, and Mr. Edward T. Bellhouse, the painters of which are also understood to be unknown. Artistically speaking, they have little merit; but it is melancholy to think that any public institution should possess portraits of their benefactors and should have been so careless concerning them as to permit the names of the painters to be utterly forgotten.

J. H. N.

THE MACPHERSONS.

(3,507 and others.)

[3,531.] Absence from home has prevented me from replying to VICINUS and J. P. before now. Mr. CHARLES DAGGATT has answered the ingenious objection of VICINUS, and therefore I have no need to take up your valuable space on that point. I pass by the remark in J. P.'s opening sentence as unworthy of notice, especially when I see J. P. thinks that particular branch of the controversy a joke. I always look upon articles and communications in Notes and Queries as the outcome of thought and research. It is evident from J. P.'s letter that he does not, and is rather of the Justice Stareleigh class than what his nom de plume would lead one to expect.

To reply to his assertions. First, he says on referring to the volume and page of Skene's *Celtic Scotland* to which I drew his attention, that he finds my words verified, but that the word "parson" is absent.

I did not suppose that J. P. would limit his examination to the particular paragraph or page cited, but that he would search to see whether his assertion or mine was correct, and he need scarcely have turned over a page to see my point proved.

Secondly, J. P. says at the great fight on the Inch of Perth that the head of the clan Heth, or Sha, was Sha Fercharson. Clan Heth or Sha, he says, was the ancient name of the Macphersons. Now if J. P. can settle this point he will have done some good in his day. All writers on the subject differ as to which were the two clans (if two only) engaged in this fight, and each of the following clans claim to have been one of the two:—The Mackintoshes, Camerons, Davidsons, Shaws, and Macphersons. But though "the chroniclers vary as to the names of the clans, they all agree as to the name of one of the leaders, viz., that it was Shaw. Wyntown writing of the battle says:—

They three score ware clannys twa,
Clahynnhe Qwhewyl and Clachinyha.
Of thir twa kynnys war thay men,
Thretty again thretty then.
And thare thay had thair chieftanys twa,
Scha Farqwharis sone wes ane of thay,
The tother Christy Johnesone.

Perhaps J. P., though acquainted with the Gaelic for Muireach, is at fault with the "Scha," and considered it was something akin to the title of a certain gentleman from Persia.

I have taken the trouble to look up who the Ferchar, whom J. P. champions was, and find that he was a Mackintosh and not a Macpherson at all. He headed his clansmen in the above affray because Lauchlan, the then chieftain of the Mackintoshes, was infirm and of "good old age." Or perhaps he refers to the successor of Lauchlan "Ferquhard, who was compelled by his clansmen to resign his post as tenth Chief of Mackintosh and fifth Captain of Clan Chattan, in consequence of his mild inactive disposition"—a pretty man to be a name-father, forsooth, even if he had been a Macpherson, which he was not.

As a last assertion J. P. says the Macphersons were not always independent, being at one time dependent on the Mackintoshes. Rather reverse this, and say that the Mackintosh had to get the Macphersons to fight their battles for them and assist them; and that a chieftain of the former married an heiress of the latter clan and so got hold of a lot of their

land. If J. P. would write to afford or elicit information and not for the sake of writing he would not cause such long notes as this to be written about matters which anyone interested can read for themselves.

DONALD D. MACPHERSON.

Cheetham Hill.

[The battle of the clans—amusing enough in its way—is getting too warm for these columns, and had perhaps better end here.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

[3,532.] CHORLTON HALL.—Can any reader give me information as to the site and dimensions of Chorlton Hall and its estate?
H. G.

[3,533.] THIRTEEN AT DINNER, AND SAILING ON FRIDAY.—What is the origin of the superstitions which associate evil with the sitting down of thirteen at dinner and the sailing of ships on a Friday?

ION.

[3,534.] PHYSIOLOGY OF FEAR.—The Lascars of India have a custom of making a number of individuals, one of which is suspected of being a thief, chew a quantity of rice, and, on examination of it afterwards, decide who is the guilty one. It is said the influence of fear alters the saliva. Is there any truth in this?
MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[3,535.] OLD ENGLISH CUSTOMS AND PRIVILEGES. In a charter granted at York by Edward I. to the citizens of Chester, among other liberties and freedoms it is provided that the citizens shall have "Socke, Sacke, Tole, Theam, Infang-theof, Outfang-theof, and to be free throughout all the king's lands and dominions of Tole, Passage." Will any of your readers oblige me with the precise significance of these privileges?
HAL.

[3,536.] THE BEST SONNETS.—Would the Editor permit an expression of opinion on (1) the twelve finest Sonnets in the English language; and (2) the best Sonnet written by each of the twelve chief English Sonnet writers. The two series would not necessarily be parallel. For instance, I take it for granted that Joseph Blanco White's Night and Death would find a place in every list given in the first section, yet no one would include him among "the chief English Sonnet writers." If correspondents would send their lists without printing all, the Editor would perhaps summarize the result of the aggregate selections, and even give the selected twelve examples in each section.
L. C. M.

Subscription 4/- per Year, Post Free.

PART 21.

ISSUED HALF-YEARLY.

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1884.

"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive."

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

MANCHESTER :
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.
1884.

This Part Completes the Fifth Volume, 1883-4.

Saturday, July 5, 1884.

NOTES.

LANCASHIRE PATRONYMICS.

[3,537.] It is a well-known fact that some fifty years ago, in the rural districts of Lancashire, a man was better known by his patronymic than his surname. In fact, in some cases, it was possible for a man to forget his surname altogether. The way the patronymic was formed was as follows:—Suppose a man named James to be the son of a man named Tom and grandson of a man named John. Then the name would be “Jimmy o’ Tom’s o’ John’s.” A short time ago there came into my possession a book bearing the date 1784 *et seq.* It was evidently an innkeeper’s score-book. It relates to the village of Gordshaw in North-East Lancashire. The entries in the majority of cases refer simply to the patronymic of the debtor and not to his surname. I have copied out a few of the names as examples of the system of nomenclature adopted about 100 years ago. Incidentally we find the price of “lump sugar” to be 9½d. per lb., and green “tay” to be 8s. per lb. in 1787.

11 Jan. 1784.	Jim o’ ould Anne’s, ale	1	5
	Tom o’ ould Betty’s	1	6
	Jim o’ th’ Lords	1	10
15 Jan. 1786.	Jack o’ Jack’s, for ale wen Edm ^d .		
	was wed.....	0	7½
	Harry o’ Jack’s, for ale	1	10
	Lawr. a Noa’s for ale	3	1
	Ould Mal a Robins, gin.....	1	0
	Joan Heap a Mighils	2	9
	Harry a Milly’s	1	0
	Geo. Ormerod left for Punch with		
	Acrinton Parson	0	6
	Tom a Sanderson’s	1	0
	Ould Mal a Robins, synamon (<i>sic</i>)		
	water.....	1	9
	Joan a James’ Pickup.....	2	6
	Geo. a John’s a Steen’s	1	3
	Ould Nimrod	2	0½
	Jno. Nuttall a Steen’s.....	25	4
	Loll a Nutta’s	2	3
4 Feb. 1787.	Mr. Ormerod, 1lb loaf sugar	0	9½
24	Jno. a “Dinishas” Collier	1	4
	Joan a Badger’s	2	6
8 Aug.	Mr. Ormerod, one quartern green		
	tay	2	0
	Jas. a Lal’s a Nutta’s	2	0
	Jno. a James a Butcher’s	1	10½
	Tom wife a Jimmy’s	2	1
	John o’ Mon John’s.....	1	0
	Jim a Guinea Dick’s	1	8½
	Bockin Jone	1	0
	Tom o’ Aster’s.....	2	6
	Jim a Tom’s a Jimmy’s.....	1	6

Loll a Dick Pillin wife	2	0
Jno. a Harry’s a Butcher’s.....	2	6
Jim a Debora’s, for ale	1	6
Lent to Jone a David’s wife.....	1	0
Lent ould Chin for Joan a Jimmy’s	2	0

The following entries show that it was usual to consume a quantity of liquor at funerals and at commercial transactions:—

June 11, 1787.	Ould Sanderson for Ale wen		
	Oliver’ child berried, 7 quarts	2	4
	Ditto for Punch with Josh.		
	Towend	1	0
	Lent in cash.....	0	6

Again:—

Mr. Ormerod for ale and punch		
wen bought Potter’s hors and		
cart.....	5	9

Also:—

Mr. Ormerod for jin, brandy, and		
ale wen cow kild.....	10	10

The above are only a few of many interesting scraps which might be gleaned from the book; but enough have been given to show the state of society in rural districts a century ago. If any reader would like to see the book itself no doubt the Editor would forward his request.

W. H. PENDLEBURY.

Bolton.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BANK TOP.

(Nos. 3,519 and 3,529.)

[3,538.] Mr. John Owen says that “Bank Top” was the name of a farm twice referred to in the *Manchester Mercury*. The earlier reference is as follows:—

To be sold, the fee simple and inheritance of a messuage and tenement called the Bank Top, with about 22 acres of land adjoining to the turnpike road between Manchester and Ardwick, and in the possession of Mr. John Upton. January, 1767.

According to the other reference the farm (then actually denominated as such) was, at the then date (7th June, 1774,) in the occupation of Edward Kenyon. No doubt the comparatively elevated site of the farm suggested the name given to it—a name which was afterwards applied to the district now built upon, and lately known as “Bank Top.”

C. T. T.-B.

THIRTEEN AT DINNER, AND SAILING ON FRIDAY.

(No. 3,533, June 28.)

[3,539.] Dr. Brewer, in his *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*, says that thirteen at dinner is unlucky, because it was the number present at the Last

Supper, one of which number so soon afterwards died. Friday is considered unlucky because it was the day of the Crucifixion. EGO.

* * *

John Timbs, in his first series of *Things not Generally Known*, says there is a prejudice existing, generally, on the pretended danger of being the thirteenth at table. If the probability be required that out of thirteen persons of different ages one of them at least shall die within a year, it will be found that the chances are about one to one that one death at least will occur. This calculation, by means of a false interpretation, has given rise to the prejudice, no less ridiculous, that the danger would be avoided by inviting a greater number of guests, which can only have the effect of augmenting the probability of the event so much apprehended. (*Quetelet on the Calculation of Probabilities.*)

This superstition obtains in Italy and Russia, as well as in England. Moore, in his *Diary*, vol. ii., p. 206, mentions there being thirteen at dinner one day at Madame Catalani's, when a French countess, who lived with her upstairs, was sent for to remedy the grievance. Again, Lord L—— said he had dined once abroad at Count Orloff's, who did not sit down to dinner, but kept walking from chair to chair, because "the Naristiken were at table, who, he knew, would rise instantly if they perceived the number thirteen, which Orloff would have made by sitting down himself."

EDM. MERCER.

373, Oxford Road.

CHORLTON HALL.

(Query No. 3,532, June 28.)

[3,540.] The following copy of advertisement, taken from the *Manchester Observer* of October 25, 1774, may probably give "H. G." the information he requires:—

To be sold by auction (together or in lots), on Tuesday, the first day of November, 1774, at the Bull's Head, in Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, and on the following days, until the whole is disposed of, unless sold in the mean time, of which timely notice will be given in this paper.

The fee simple and inheritance of all that elegant mansion-house, called Chorlton Hall, with the farm houses, buildings, lands, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in Chorlton Row, in the parish of Manchester aforesaid, containing upwards of one hundred and fifty-three statute acres of rich meadow and pasture land thereto adjoining. Chorlton Hall is delightfully situated, and commands an extensive prospect into the counties of York, Derby, and Chester; lies about a mile from Manchester, and

at an agreeable distance from the great road from Manchester to London. A considerable part of the land lies upon the end of the town of Manchester, and is very proper for building upon. The house, exclusive of the farm houses and detached buildings on the estate, contains five rooms on a floor, including the entrance or hall part, which is large and elegant; the offices consist of a very large kitchen, brewing-house, laundry, servants' hall, pantries, &c., all with good chambers over; and the out-buildings of a good coach-house, stabling for sixteen horses, saddle house, cowhouse for six cows, and a large barn.

Also, several clear annual chief rents, issuing out of lands in Manchester aforesaid, amounting in the whole to £160 or thereabouts.

Also, several messuages or dwelling-houses, lands, and premises, situate in the city, and county of the city of Chester, subject to a lease thereof for the remainder of the term of 2,000 years, 1,900 of which are unexpired, under the clear yearly rent of £100.

Also all that ancient messuage or dwelling-house, with the appurtenances, called Hough Hall, situate in Moston, in the said parish of Manchester, containing upwards of forty statute acres of good meadow and pasture land thereto adjoining, and lies within three miles of the town of Manchester aforesaid.

A plan of the lands may be seen, and further particulars had of Mr. Parker, Rolt's Buildings, Fetter Lane, London; at Chorlton Hall, aforesaid; or of Mr. Nabb, attorney in Manchester, who will show the premises to any person inclined to view the same.

FRED LEARY.

Clock Alley, Manchester.

PORTRAITS AT THE INFIRMARY.

(Nos. 3,521 and 3,530.)

[3,541.] The donor of the portrait of the late Samuel Argent Bardsley to the Royal Infirmary was his son, the suave and courtly Sir James L. Bardsley, M.D., who resided at the time at the Orchard, in Greenheys. Previous to the year 1862 the portrait was in a very sad state, the canvas leaving the stretcher all round, and the edges and paint peeling off. I had to transfer the picture to a new canvas and then re-line. Sir James was well pleased with the result, and acknowledged it in a complimentary letter which I have at my rooms; and also made me a present of a small portrait of himself.

J. R. TAYLOR.

Brazenose-street.

OLD ENGLISH CUSTOMS AND PRIVILEGES

(Query No. 3,535, June 28.)

[3,542.] The ancient and now obsolete law terms quoted in this Query often occur in mediæval grants to cities and towns, which it is intended shall have borough and manorial rights. "Socke" or "soc," as there used (not to be confounded with the "soc" synonymous with plough, and the root of the term

"socage," still used in describing tenures), is the jurisdiction to administer justice generally according to the custom of the realm.

"Sacke," "sac," or "sake" is the manorial right to try cases of wrong and to impose fines for wrong doing. "Tol," like "tol" and "tolne," is an old form for the modern "toll," and scarcely, therefore, needs to be defined. "Tol-passag" is one of the class, as are also "turn-tol," "tol-travers," and "through-tol."

"Theam" or "them" is the right "that you shall have all the generations of your villeins with their suits and cattle wheresoever they shall be found in England."

"Infang-theof" is the manorial right to judge any thief taken within the manor. "Outfang-theof" is a similar right to bring to the grantee's court a felon, domiciled within the manor but arrested beyond its bounds.

HAL will find further particulars in the well-known book, *Les Termes de la Ley*, written in the seventeenth century (my edition by "T. B." is dated 1667), as also in *Coar.* Wharton's *Law Lexicon* notices, I see, each of the terms above explained, but gives no further particulars than those I have entered.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

Brown-street.

* * *

The rights granted to the burgesses of free English towns are well described in the fourth volume of Hibbert Ware's *Foundations of Manchester*, page 33. "Time out of mind," it seems, the town of Manchester had these rights, which had been granted to give the Portreeve and the freemen a jurisdiction separate, distinct, and apart from that of the ancient Wapentake of Salford. Manchester burgesses had privilege of soc, sac, Toll, Them, Infang-theof and Outfang-theof, Waif and Stray, Gallows and Tumbrel, and punishment of butchers, tanners, and retailers. "Soc has been supposed to generally imply the privilege of separate and distinct jurisdiction over the territory which belonged to or owed fealty to the lord; Sac, to indicate the privileges of taking the issues and profits of the court; Toll, to express the lord's profit from buying and selling; Them, to relate to the forfeiture of stolen goods; Ingfang-theof to denote the competency of a lord to judge any thief arraigned within his fee; Outfang-theof, to mean the power whereby a lord could summon any man dwelling within his manor to judgment in his own

court, although taken for felony in another place out of his fee; and Waif and Stray, to signify that the goods stolen and waived, or left by the felon, when for fear of apprehension he absconded, became forfeited to the lord of the manor. The Tumbrel or cuckstool, in use among the Saxons, was named in the Dom Boc, the cathedra stercoraria." "The Manchester stool, shaped like the well-known Lateran chair of stone, was, according to Whittaker, who wrote in 1775, an open bottomed chair of wood placed on the end of a long pole, balanced upon a pivot, and suspended over the large collection of water (an expansion of the river Tib) at Pool-house or Pool-fold."

W. H. BAILEY.

Eccles.

QUERIES.

[3,543.] DRIVING TOUR TO NORTHUMBERLAND. I purpose going to Haltwhistle, in Northumberland, and shall be glad if any of your readers will kindly tell me the best route for driving.

A. EFF.

[3,544.] NEWSPAPER EDITORS A CENTURY AGO. In the Editor's preface to *Thoughts in Prison*, from the press of C. Whittingham, Chiswick, written by William Dodd, LL.D., who was hanged for forgery June 28, 1777, the Editor, in describing Dodd's career of extravagance, dishonesty, and scheming, wrote, in 1776, "He descended so low as to become the editor of a newspaper." Were newspaper editors in 1776 so low, that the editor of Dodd's volume, published in 1823, had grounds sufficient to justify his assertion that the reverend Dodger degraded himself by editing a newspaper?

W. D.

SELLING BY CANDLE FOR 500 YEARS.—Sale by candle is a method of auction that was at one time common throughout England and Scotland, and that still survives in some places north of the Tweed. In a form slightly differing from that which used to be almost universal in this country, it may to this day be witnessed in Bremen, although the municipal authorities of that city have decided to abolish it at the end of the year. Every Friday afternoon in a room in the old Exchange a judge and his secretary take their seats, attended by a crier and a servant dressed in a flame-coloured coat and supplied with a box of tiny candles, each of which is intended to burn for one minute. At a given signal a candle is lighted, and the bidding for whatever happens to be on sale begins. At each offer from a would-be purchaser the burning candle is extinguished and a new one is lighted; and the property is only disposed of when a candle burns itself out ere a fresh bid has been announced by the crier. This custom dates from mediæval times, and it is said in Bremen that for five hundred years sales have been held and candles have been burned every Friday without interruption.

Saturday, July 12, 1884.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER PERIODICALS.

[3,545.] Two periodicals have just disappeared from the Manchester list—*Footlights* and the *City Lantern*. The first-named had hardly got itself enrolled ere it vanished. Its first number was published on Friday, June 13; the second and last on June 20. The introductory note said:—In starting *Footlights* the Editor wishes it to be distinctly understood that this is not an actor's paper, but a journal for the frequenters of theatres. It has been established with the view of supplying the numerous lovers of the drama with all the latest gossip and news which are likely to be of interest. . . . The Editor hopes, looking at the increase of places of amusements in Manchester, there will be a large circle of readers of a paper devoted to theatrical matters, and it will always be his endeavour to make the *Footlights* a source of amusement and information combined. He relies in return upon the liberal patronage of the playgoing public." A fortnight was sufficient to prove that Hope had told a too-flattering and fallacious tale to the sanguine Editor.

The week that witnessed the disappearance of *Footlights* was also marked by the cessation of the *City Lantern*—"a weekly journal," according to its portentous subsidiary title, "of wit, humour, satire, politics, art, science, and social literature." It had been in existence since the autumn of 1874, and had reached its five hundred and seventh number. Its editors had been more numerous even than its proprietors, and probably no one would be able to give an accurate history of its vicissitudes. The last proprietor but one was ex-Councillor Middlehurst; the very last, Mr. William Hailwood, of Rochdale, and his loss upon the venture is understood to have been considerable. Curiously enough, the gleam of a new light in the *Lantern* during the last three months gave to its closing pages the faintest possible hope of a revival. An utterly graceless but humorous Bohemian, Mr. Partridge, had begun a series of amusing autobiographical papers, and as the fact became known there was a run upon the office for back numbers as well as for those of the current week. The revival—such as it was—came too late, and Mr. Partridge's audacious personalities, fortunately perhaps for the personal interests of the daring

writer, were brought to an untimely end along with the last remaining survivor of the Manchester humorous papers. Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow, and other towns give a remunerative support to journals of the kind, but no one of the numerous Manchester periodicals has been a pecuniary success.

To make the record of recent Manchester periodicals complete, mention should be made of *Pallas*, "a journal of literature," which, like *Footlights*, only made two appearances and then vanished. The first number of *Pallas* was published December 1, 1883; the second and last on December 8. The publisher was Mr. Joseph J. Alley, of Blackfriars-street, Salford; the price one penny; the contributors Dudley Armytage, Cuthbert Oxendale, J. J. Alley, and three or four anonymous or pseudonymous writers. A guinea prize was announced to be given weekly, and the first was awarded to Israfil, Cheetham Hill, for his contribution on Thought-reading. Whether the author of the second prize essay on Inter-oceanic Canals ever received his guinea is of course unknown, as no third number enabled the editor to make the announcement. There was an instalment of a story from the French at the end of the second number, with the appended line, "To be concluded in our next." The faithful subscribers to *Pallas* are still waiting for "our next."

The printing and publication of two periodicals which were started in Manchester have this year been removed to London—*Sale and Exchange*, a paper after the style of *Bazaar and Exchange*, and *Tit-bits*, the most amazing journalistic fluke in history. This is a miscellany of slight anecdotes and literary trifles, mostly cut from old books, and the only discoverable reason for the astounding and almost incredible success of such a compilation is the growth in recent years of a partially and poorly educated public who can only take their reading in snippets. Scrap literature, however, will doubtless have its day, and cease to be.

ED.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THIRTEEN AT DINNER, AND SAILING ON FRIDAY.

(Nos. 3,533 and 3,539.)

[3,546.] The notion that thirteen is an unlucky number is not confined to Christians, so it cannot refer to the Last Supper. The same may be said of Friday. Not only does the superstition regarding the number thirteen prevail in Italy and Russia, but

I think it will be found all over the East. My impression is that it comes from the unfortunate position it was thought to hold in the mystic meanings that were, among the ancients, attached to all numbers. No reader of the Old or New Testament can fail to perceive that numbers are often used in a manner that suggests the idea they are not to be understood literally. Perhaps some of your readers who are students of Swedenborg, who treats this matter very exhaustively, could give us some hints on this very interesting subject.

P. S.

BANK TOP.

(Nos. 3,519, 3,523, and 3,538.)

[3,547.] The answer given by Mr. TAVARE to Query 3,519 is very unsatisfactory, inasmuch as he fails to show where "Bank Top" began and where it ended. The quotation from Mr. Edwin Waugh's *Roads out of Manchester* would lead your readers to suppose that Shooter's Brow and Bank Top were ranged together side by side. This, however, was not the case. Shooter's Brow extended from Ducie-street to Shooter's Brook, which flows under London Road about half way between Pump-street and Brook-street. Here was the starting point of Bank Top, and its terminus was the river Medlock. Mr. Waugh's description of this locality seems to be wholly derived from some incorrect map; for he gives the name of Shooter's Brook to the Medlock, utterly ignoring the real Shooter's Brook. And then he says, "The line of the Medlock is a little to the west of Downing-street." Now, if he had ever been on the spot he writes about, he must have known that there is not the least distance between the "line of the Medlock" and Downing-street, the lower end of that street being washed by the waters of the river.

S. HEWITT.

NEWSPAPER EDITORS A CENTURY AGO.

(Query No. 3,545, July 5.)

[3,548.] Dr. W. F. Collier, in his *History of English Literature*, speaking of newspapers in the eighteenth century, says:—"News was to be learned chiefly in the coffee-houses, which were thronged all day long by the idle men, and for some hours were frequented by even the busiest men in the capital. The evening before post day the correspondents of the country districts gathered all the scraps of intelligence they had collected in their daily rambles into the form of a letter, which went down duly by the post to enlighten justices of the peace in their offices, country

rectors in their studies, village tradesmen and neighbouring farmers in the sanded tap-rooms of rustic ale-houses."

From the above I should think that editing a newspaper then was rather a low occupation for a clergyman, who ought to have been in better company than that of "idle men." What would a clergyman be thought of now were he to go gossiping in beer-houses? It was about 1758 that the *Idler* and *Connoisseur* were first published, and the editor of the latter confesses, in his first number, his habit of rambling about the town.

EDW. MERCER.

373, Oxford Road.

QUERIES.

[3,549.] ALTRINCHAM OR ALTRINGHAM.—When was the spelling of Altrincham altered? In a small edition of Johnson's Dictionary, published in 1841, it is spelt Altringham, but I see it is now spelt Altrincham. Which is right?

ALFRED HAIRLY.

[3,550.] CHESHIRE AGRICULTURE.—Can I find out the name of the author of "A Report of the Present State of Agriculture in the County of Chester, written for the Royal Agricultural Society, 1844?" It was published as an octavo pamphlet of 87 pages, printed by T. Sowler, St. Anne's Square, Manchester.

S.

[3,551.] SCOT.—Can anyone tell me the origin of the word "Scot?" We say "scot free," "pay the scot," "scot and lot voters." We call Caledonia Scotland; and we call Cambria Wales. The latter means the land of the foreigner, or the people whose language we do not understand. But what has made the word "scot" mean a tax or payment?

CURIOUS.

OLD HALLS OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

OLD HALLS IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE: including notes on the ancient domestic architecture of the Counties Palatine. By Henry Taylor, architect. With numerous illustrations. Manchester: J. E. Cornish. 1884.

Murray in his Handbooks gives a list of no fewer than one hundred and forty-three old halls in Lancashire and another list of sixty in Cheshire, remarking that "with the exception of Lancashire, Cheshire is perhaps the richest county in England in old houses, and particularly of the quaint and old-fashioned

style of timber and plaster." The castles in the two counties are not numerous; nine only are enumerated in Lancashire and six in Cheshire, and of some of these little now remains. It is scarcely too much to say that an exhaustive account of these old halls and castles, together with the abbeys, would virtually be a history of the two shires down to the time of the great Civil War. The scanty population of the early centuries gathered round these edifices as protecting centres, and all that was memorable or notable was in some way connected with them.

Of the two hundred and three old halls, Mr. Henry Taylor deals with forty-three, and the work has occupied almost the whole of his leisure time during fifteen years. For, it is to be observed, he has in every case depended entirely upon original investigation, visiting the places themselves, measuring, sketching, and annotating, and generally undertaking an amount of personal labour such as is rarely bestowed upon an enterprize of the kind. He states very truly in his Preface that "to treat of every old hall in the two counties would require the labour of a life-time;" we may almost venture to say, the life-time of two or three competent individuals; and accordingly Mr. Taylor has wisely brought his share of the work within measurable and attainable limits. "I have," he says, "selected for description a limited number of the most interesting or typical examples, and have endeavoured to trace the architectural history of the several buildings in such a manner as to illustrate, as much as possible, the development of English domestic architecture in general, more especially in the northern counties, and the successive changes in the manners and habits of life with which that development was connected. In this selection the old halls of Lancashire are more largely represented than those of Cheshire, partly because the former have received a smaller share of attention from previous writers, and partly because, being frequently on hilly ground, they present many features of interest which are not met with in the houses of the flatter land of the adjacent county."

Mr. Taylor rightly grasps the essential and characteristic architectural feature of these buildings when he points at the outset to the defensive nature of the sites. The old halls partook of the nature of castles on a small scale. "In many cases the cause is to be sought in the prevalence of border warfare, with which the Counties Palatine had to contend, the raids

of the Scots and Welsh not ceasing before the Tudor age. Then, again, the Wars of the Roses and the troubles of the Cromwellian time would keep alive the old traditions of the necessity of defence. It was only at the beginning of the eighteenth century that these defensive precautions were rendered needless by the increase of general security in the country, and by the suppression of the bands of lawless marauders which for so long had ranged over this hitherto sparsely-peopled district." It will be found, therefore, that the sites have been largely chosen at the junction of rivers, or in a elevated or otherwise isolated plot of ground; and, again, where these naturally defensive advantages were not to be secured, the hall would be surrounded by a moat. Mr. Taylor also does not fail to point out that the "folds" with which we are familiar in the hilly districts of Lancashire and East Cheshire were originally collections of small farmhouses or cottages, grouped together for mutual defence, and those which still remain "frequently contain interesting specimens of ancient domestic architecture." Apart from the historic interest of the buildings, including in that historic interest the light which the examination incidentally throws upon the several arrangements of our ancestors, Mr. Taylor avows that one of his objects is to promote the study of the noble domestic architecture of earlier times in order, if possible, "to arrest the invasion of pretentiousness, flimsiness, weak and foolish construction, and crude ornamentation, which is fast ruining our ancient towns and villages, and rendering the face of the county repulsive to every person of cultivated taste." We may all wish a hearty good-speech to an object so worthy and desirable, and Mr. Taylor's charming volume with its admirable and picturesque illustrations can hardly fail to aid in its accomplishment.

The book, as will already have been gathered, is mainly architectural, but the author does not wholly neglect the historical features of his subject. He deals with these briefly, but indicates where further information can be obtained. The plan of illustration adopted seems to us in all respects admirable. In addition to plans and sections, which will render the volume of great value to the professional architect, most of the old halls are set before the reader by means of a bird's-eye view. The edifice is seen completely, and with all its surroundings, and the sketches have been done with a deft and delicate hand. It would be possible to glean many pleasant

and suggestive passages from Mr. Taylor's book, and to a few points we hope to call attention on another occasion. For the present we content ourselves with welcoming the handsome volume as a distinctly valuable contribution to the artistic and local history of the two counties, rightly conceived in scope and object, and executed with competency, judgment, and skill.

THE CIVIL LIST PENSIONS FOR 1884.—A list is issued of all the Civil List pensions granted during the year 1884. There are eight pensions altogether. Two grants of £250 are upon it. Mr. Matthew Arnold, the poet and essayist, stands first. Dr. James Augustus Henry Murray, the editor of the New English Dictionary, stands next. Dr. Neilson Hancock gets £170 for his statistical work in Ireland. Mr. Furnivall, Shakespearian scholar and philologist, gets £150. £100 each is given to the Rev. Charles Southey, because he is the son of the poet Southey; to Mrs Moncrieff, because her husband, the commander, was killed at Souakim; and to Sir Richard Owen, the greatest comparative anatomist of our day. A sum of £80 has also been granted to Mr. Edward Edwards in recognition of his services to bibliography. The entire sum granted is, as usual, £1,200.

NEW SOUTH WALES AS A CUSTOMER OF ENGLAND.—During 1883 New South Wales imported articles to the value of £20,960,157, of which those from the United Kingdom amounted in value to £10,624,081, or more than one half, the various British colonies contributing £8,196,287, of which a considerable portion was originally from England. The New South Wales imports during the same period from the United States, France, Germany, Belgium, Norway, China, Japan, and other countries, amounted to £2,139,789, or about one-fourth of the value of the imports direct from the United Kingdom. Some idea of the extent to which articles of British manufacture are used in New South Wales may be inferred from the fact that in 1883 the value of articles of apparel and haberdashery imported from the United Kingdom amounted to £1,016,980, while the value of the cotton goods, almost exclusively of Lancashire manufacture, was £693,679.

WAYS OF SPENDING SUNDAY.—Mr. Rossiter, in an article on the Continental Sunday in the *Nineteenth Century*, quotes sundry brief reports which he has received from English and Scotch towns as to the precise form of "recreation" indulged in by the people on Sundays. Most of the replies received are great fun. At Coventry on Sunday the people "loaf," at Bath they "saunter," at Blackburn they "ramble," at Reading they "follow the Salvation Army," at Sunderland "walk about till the public-houses open," at Norwich it is "fishing and gardening," at Scarborough "rabbit hunting and fence-breaking," at Glasgow "the public parks," at Greenock "recreation is not encouraged on Sundays," at Kilmarnock recreation takes the form of "walking about and church-going," at Dundee "they do not go much in for recreation on Sundays," and at Paisley "they have no recreations on Sunday, having as many as they want on week-days, and on Sundays they seem glad of a rest."

Saturday, July 19, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SIR ROBERT BOOTH, CHIEF-JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH IN IRELAND.

(No. 3,527, June 28.)

[3,552.] Sir Robert Booth is associated with Manchester and Salford by birth, breeding, burial, and benefactions. His legal studies and official duties kept him much away from his native county; yet he was associated long enough with his fellow-townsmen to gain their respect. I do not think there is any considerable account of him in any accessible quarter. Many years ago I put together some fragmentary particulars about him and other unrecorded *alumni* of the Manchester Grammar School; but the only references to accounts of his career that I had then met with were the brief paragraphs in the *Mosley Family Memoirs*, page 36, and in *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii., p. 94. On referring to my memoranda I find they will supply some of the particulars desired, and suggest quarters for other information.

Robert Booth was baptized on the 2nd July, 1626. His father died when he was a boy, and his education was left to his mother (*née* Ann Mosley, daughter of Oswald Mosley, of Ancoats Hall, Manchester), whose sister Margaret was the wife of the Rev. John Angier, of Denton. The widow Booth, 8th August, 1637, was married at Stockport to the Rev. Thomas Case, a divine who had been brought into Lancashire out of the diocese of Bishop Wrenn by Warden Heyricke, his college friend, and who had been presented by the Booth family to the curacy of their newly-erected chapel in Salford. Case's influence upon his step-son's career was very marked. Dr. Jacomb relates that Case had no children of his own, but that he was as tender over his wife's children, and as affectionate, as if they had been his own. "His love to them and care of them was scarce to be parallell'd, sure not to be excelled. And how he pray'd for them, instructed them, us'd all means for their Spiritual Good, I hope they will never forget" (p. 51).

While yet at the Grammar School, Booth was entered at Gray's Inn, 18th February, 1641-2, being described as son of Robert Booth of Salford, gentleman. He entered St. John's College, Cambridge, as a fellow-commoner 20th September, 1644, aged 18. Henry Newcome, afterwards of Manchester, who was admitted at St. John's the same year, says it was then in the very heat of the wars, and that only nine

students were admitted that year into that great college. Another of Booth's college associates was John Billingsley, of Chatham, who entered the 19th September, and in whom likewise Mr. Case was interested.

Booth was called to the bar on 26th November, 1649. Meanwhile Mr. Case, who was appointed rector of Stockport in July, 1645, by the Committee for Plundered Ministers, had established himself as pastor of St. Mary Magdalen in Milk-street, having been induced to go up to the metropolis with some persons of quality from Lancashire and Cheshire, who were urgent for him to go. In the society which the future judge would meet with under his mother's roof, there would frequently be many of the staunchest adherents to the parliamentary party. There is apparently nothing to show how Booth bore himself in the civil troubles: but the absence of his name from contemporary annals and other records implies that he kept aloof from public life. In this respect he strikingly contrasts with his step-father, who, as a popular preacher and a very prominent member of the Assembly of Divines, was laid hold of by Butler for a Hudibrastic rhyme which has immortalized him. Amongst the Leigh MSS at Lyme Hall are some letters from Robert Booth's pen, dated February, 1659-60, which show that he was very keenly watching events. He describes, amongst other matters, the rejoicings in London consequent on the accord between the soldiers and the city; and he takes off the industrious Lawyer Prynne, whom he saw "with a basket-hilt sword."

The dates of the legal promotions of the rising lawyer are to be found in the *Liber Munerum Publicorum Hibern.* In 1660 he was made (third) puisne Justice of the Common Pleas. The Carte Papers, vol. xli., No. 103, indicate him as second Justice, and give the date 1st December. The promotion might fairly imply that the King gave him the position by way of reward for services. Newcome on coming to Manchester in 1658 had renewed his acquaintance with his college associate. He mentioned him now and then, the first occasion being on 3rd September 1661: "Mr. Case desiring to keep a private day in the behalf of Judge Booth, who was now exceeding weak in Ireland, it was kept in the chamber I studied in; and we had about sixty at it, all the chief in the town." The entry on Tuesday, 22nd October, 1661, "My Lord Booth was in ye towne this day, and so about an houre I spent w'th him or more," indicates

(pace a note by Newcome's editor) Sir George Booth, whose patent of nobility was dated 20th April this year. Again, Saturday, 26th April, 1662: "W'n in ye market place, I met Iudge Booth, who is perfectly recovered. A very gracious returne to prayer. See Septr. last." In July the Judge was attending the assizes at Longford. On 12th November he was made "ancient" of Gray's Inn. On "8th March, 1662," he was at the assizes at Naas, County Kildare. On 11th May, 1663, Newcome alludes to Captain Booth giving notice to the Rev. Thomas Ellison to leave his parsonage (Ashton-under-Lyne) within three months "upon my L'd Booth's order accord: to his Bond;" which, again, is more likely to be Sir George Booth, owner of the advowson. In June Judge Booth was at Kilkenny assizes. On 19th August, 1664, he got a pass to take six horses into Ireland.

On 20th September, 1663, Newcome heard of the death of "young Mr. Booth;" and on 22nd December he speaks of "the Lady Booth, of ye Millhouse," who sent him 40s. It is not clear who this Lady Booth was, unless she was the wife of Sir George, Lord Delamere, before named. "Young Mr. Booth" may be the Judge's own son; and if so, it would, as we shall see, place the date of his first marriage in the year 1651, or thereabouts. This son does not appear in the genealogies of the family; but I find him introduced with some interesting particulars in one of the religious treatises of Thomas Case. When in 1670 Case published a quarto volume called *Mount Pisgah*, otherwise "Words of Comfort over the Death of our Gracious Relations," he dedicated it "to the Honourable and his much Honoured Son-in-law, Sr. Robert Booth, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland." He says:—

Dear Sir: These Meditations presented to you were first intended for a *diversion* to your and my sorrow, Conceived by the death of that Excellent Child your First-born, your Benjamin; but his Precious Mother's Ben-oni, for she brought him forth, not with the hazard only, but with the loss of her own Life; his Birth was her Death; from which very moment of time, you were pleased to concredit his Education to his tender Grand-Mother your pious Mother [Mrs. Case], and my Self; a Depositum than which there could nothing have been more sacred to us in the world: I am sure we were as tender of it as of our own Lives; yea verily our Lives were bound up in the Child's Life. He was indeed *Natus deliciarum*, a Delectable child in whom Nature and Grace seemed to be at a strife which should excel in her workmanship: and as he grew in age, so he grew in sweetness of disposition, and in all Natural and Moral Endow-

ments of which his *Age* was capable. . . .
 Before he was Eleaven years old Godsnatch't him out
 of our *Tuition*, and removed him into an *Higher Form*.
 As for my self, so many deaths have
 been rushing in upon me (*deep calling unto deep*)
 as have not only *retarded* the birth of these Concep-
 tions, but threatened their burial in the same womb
 which conceived them, which is the just cause they
 have stuck so long in the birth. . . . Let
 your own *Life* be a *Name* to you when you are *dead* ;
 a *Name better than of Sons and Daughters* ; by filling
 that *Honourable Station* wherein God hath fixed you,
 and all your other *Relations*, with such *Fruitfulness*,
Wisdom and *Fidelity*, that all that know you may
 rise up and call you blessed ; yea that your *Name*
 may be as a sweet *Perfume* to *Posterity*. *Live your*
own Life and your Son's too.

This is signed "Your Faithful and most Affectionate
 Father-in-law, Thomas Case." Here, then, is a record
 of the death of the Judge's first wife, called by the
 Rev. J. Booker (*History of Blackley*, p. 26) the
 daughter of Spencer Potts, Esquire. The same
 treatise gives particulars of another overlooked
 member of the Booth family. A second dedication,
 "To my Worthy Son-in-Law, William Hawes, Dr. in
 Physick, and to Mrs. Hawes his vertuous Consort,"
 explains that these religious meditations, "con-
 ceived upon the death of your hopeful Nephew, the
 only Son of your Elder Brother, Sir Robert Booth,
 now in Ireland," had been prevented from being pub-
 lished by reason of those distempers which had
 ever since pursued him (Case) uncessantly, but they
 now appeared "when our sorrows are doubled in the
 death of your precious child Martin Hawes, your
 first-born." He dwells at length on the two children,
 who were brought up together. "Though there were
 some distance of years, yet there was the greatest
 parity of persons observed between them, that though
 they were but the Brother's and Sister's Sons, you
 could not (had they been together) have distinguished
 them from natural Brethren, or Tynnes (rather) of the
 same birth." We are also told that they were so
 "studious in learning Catechisms," that they could
 give as rational account of them as if they had been
 candidates for the University! And it is added that
 many both of the nobility and others in the parish of
 "Giles's in the Fields" (the parish of which Case was
 Lecturer and Rector) could (at that day) witness.
 "They both lived with us, but died with you. . . .
 They died both of them in the absence of their
 Trustees."

Dr. William Hawes, here mentioned, is alluded
 to by Henry Newcome under the year 1669
 as uncle of William Crowther. Thomas

Case, by his will in 1682, left his "daughter
 Hawes" £20 to buy her plate, and her husband Dr.
 Hawes £10 for mourning, and his sons Thomas,
 William, and George, each £10. Mary Mosley, sister
 to Mrs. Case, had married John Crowther, a religious
 citizen of London, whose children—William, John,
 and Anne—are, in Case's will, termed his "cousins."
 Anne was the mother of Thomas Butterworth of
 Manchester, gent., whose daughters made great
 matches with the Hoghton, Bayley, and Joddrell
 families.

The Judge's second wife, whom he also survived,
 was a daughter of Sir Henry Oxenden, and she is
 given as second wife in Mr. Booker's Pedigree,
 though Canon Raines's note implies that she was the
 only wife. She died 27th October, 1669.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford.

CHESHIRE AGRICULTURE.

(Query No. 3,550, July 12.)

[3,553.] In reply to "S." I would remark that a
 number of essays were sent in, competing for the
 prize offered by the Royal Agricultural Society in
 1844 on Agriculture in Cheshire. I do not know the
 exact one to which he refers, but I hold a copy of the
 one to which the prize was awarded, and should be
 glad to lend it to your correspondent. It is by the
 late Mr. William Palin, of Stapleford Hall, near
 Tarvin.

J. G. M.

BANK TOP.

(No. 3,547 and others.)

[3,554.] The name Bank Top originated with the
 bank of land which intervened between Shooter's
 Brook and the river Medlock until the brook falls
 into the river at Old Garratt. The road from Man-
 chester to London passes over this bank, and the
 length of it between the two streams is called Bank
 Top. As a child I knew Bank Top well, and yet
 retain a distinct recollection of it as it was then. The
 summit of the bank was at the original door of the
 Wheat Sheaf Tavern (then a storey higher), from
 which the ground rather steeply fell to the brook,
 with a long slope to the river. Between Acton-street
 and Granby Row the road was lowered, whilst from
 Buxton-street to the river it was raised, to meet the
 level of the bridge over the Medlock. The present
 Wheat Sheaf vaults and the adjoining shops were the
 cellars of the houses. The original lie of the summit
 of the bank may yet be seen by a walk up the entry
 or passage behind the buildings.

JAMES BURY.

PHYSIOLOGY OF FEAR: THE RICE ORDEAL IN INDIA.

(Query No. 3,534, June 28.)

[3,555.] The ordeal referred to in this query is one of nine mentioned by historians as practised by the Hindoos from time immemorial down even to modern times. The ordeals by fire and water, resorted to in Europe till near the end of the seventeenth century, doubtless had their origin in Hindustan. They would accord better with the savage natures and gloomy superstitions of our north-eastern progenitors than the comparatively milder and more reasonable one of masticating rice, had they indeed been possessed of this article of food, which probably they were not. At one period it was customary in Germany for the clergy (always priests have to do with such iniquities) to have recourse to the Ordeal of the Corsned, which consisted in administering to a suspected criminal a piece of *consecrated* bread and cheese, and if he could not swallow it, he was deemed to be guilty. Blackstone relates the legendary story that Godwin, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, being charged with the murder of the King's brother, appealed to this ordeal, and was choked! It is well known that it is impossible to swallow perfectly dry food, and it may be that under the influence of great fear the salivary glands would cease to act in the ordinary way of secretion when food was put into the mouth. How affected they are by the imagination, or nervous emotion, most people know. Hence the remark, "it makes one's mouth water," is common enough when reference is made to, or the odour smelt, of some dainty food.

The chief constituent of rice is starch, which, till its conversion into sugar, is not a food. There is a chemical element in saliva called ptyaline, the function of which is to initiate this conversion. How it may happen that rice should be taken from the mouth of a trembling criminal can thus be easily conceived. As with all ordeals of this, or indeed any other kind, the timidly innocent would be oftener found guilty than the hardened and real culprit. It is not unlikely that the ordeal imposed by the Jews of olden time upon poor women suspected by their husbands of incontinency, was somewhat analogous in its operation to the rice ordeal. An account of it may be seen in the Book of Numbers. The ingredients of the water administered to the woman by the priest were burnt barley meal and dust from the

floor of the tabernacle, which, it is said, would turn very bitter and inflict grievous ailments upon the recipient if she was guilty. It is somewhat curious that frankincense was prohibited being put into the mixture, inasmuch as the ancient Romans were accustomed to use one of its component parts as a remedy for the loathsome disease, said to be the main effect produced upon the unfortunate wife, if guilty, by the drink. MORGAN BRIERLEY.

QUERIES.

[3,556.] A LINE IN OTHELLO.—A literary friend avers that he has seen an edition of Shakspeare in which the lines:—

Rude am I in speech,
And little blessed in the set phrase of speech,
are given:—

Rude am I in speech,
And little *graced* with the set phrase of speech.
Could any Shakspearean scholar decide this friendly controversy? F.

[The word in the First Folio is "blessed."—ED.]

[3,557.] HAILSTONES.—During a severe thunderstorm on Sunday, the 13th instant, some large hailstones fell of a peculiar structure, which on account of their not striking the ground with the force due to their size and the height from which they must have fallen, led me to examine them particularly. They were in the shape of a flattened ellipsoid, with a tail-like projection at one end similar to the neck of a flattened soda-water bottle. They were of pure transparent ice except in the centre, in which were lodged one or two beautiful crystals of snow, after the manner of crystals in dendritic stones. How is this strange phenomenon to be accounted for?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

A CONFEDERATE HEROINE.—"Belle Boyd," who held a commission in the Confederate army under Stonewall Jackson, is now the wife of Colonel John S. Hammond, who lives in Dallas, Texas.

EARLY ENGLISH BOOKS.—The catalogue of the early English books in the British Museum, which has been for some years in preparation, is now issued in three octavo volumes. It comprises all the works printed in England, Scotland, and Ireland previous to the year 1640, as well as the books in English printed abroad before that date, and is perhaps the most important bibliographical work that has ever appeared in this country, since, although it is limited to the first hundred and seventy years of English presswork, it is more nearly exhaustive and final in character than any other similar attempt.

Saturday, July 26, 1884.

NOTES.

PREACHING MATCHES.

[3,558.] Reading J. F. T.'s article headed "A Preaching Match," in your issue of July 12, reminds me of a similar "match" that took place about forty-one years ago at Compstall Parish Church. My informant was present on the occasion, when the late George Andrew was the judge, and of course elected the one who pleased him best. It was the custom for the "competitor" to dine at Green Hill, the residence of his would-be patron, and on the Sunday in question the reverend gentleman, after delivering his sermon in the morning in a spluttering and hesitating manner, and doubtless thinking his chance a small one, ventured to ask during dinner if he would be appointed; to which inquiry Mr. Andrew curtly answered "No!" His text had been, "I do hereby exercise myself to have a conscience, void of offence towards God and to man." In the afternoon he preached a very excellent sermon, the text, however, being very apropos of his discomfiture: "He that hath, to him shall be given; but he who hath not, from him shall be taken away even that which he seemeth to have."

Another incident of a preaching match is, I think, from its humorous tone, worthy of note, although my informant cannot now remember fully the names of the parties. The circumstance was as follows:—The Rev. Mr. Lowe preached his sermon in the morning, and his text was, "Adam, where art thou?" knowing fully well that the Rev. Adam ——— had to follow in the evening. Feeling sure of an easy victory he preached in a pompous and confident manner, and with evident self-satisfaction, doubtless thinking that Adam would be as completely out of the race as his original grandfather was. But the reverend competitor, notwithstanding his divine calling, showed that there was a bit of the old Adam still in him, and preaching an extempore sermon rather staggered the pompous parson by answering from the pulpit, "Lo! here am I!" The point of the joke is still better sharpened when we hear that he gave a clever and good sermon and was duly elected.

H. B.

Choriton-on-Medlock.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

A LINE IN OTHELLO.

(Query No. 3,556, July 19.)

[3,559.] "F." and his literary friend are both at fault with regard to this quotation. Shakspeare's words are:—

Rude am I in my speech,
And little *bless'd* with the set phrase of *peace*.

I have consulted four different editions, all of which give it as above. The substitution by "F." of the word "speech" for "peace" in the second line is not only tautological but absurd, as the following lines of the text show:—

For since these arms of mine had seven years' pith,
Till now some nine moons wasted, they have used
Their dearest action in the tented field.

J. L. B.

[Mr. C. E. Reade and Mr. Edmund Mercer write to the same effect, but note that the reading in Charles Knight's and the Cambridge editions of Shakspeare is "soft (not set) phrase of peace." This, we may add, is the reading of the First Folio.—Ed.]

SIR ROBERT BOOTH, CHIEF-JUSTICE IN THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH IN IRELAND.

[3,560.] In my last note I referred to the 41st vol. of the Carte Papers in the Bodleian Library containing the original royal letter recommending Booth for promotion to a justiceship in Ireland. A friend at Oxford has sent me the full text of the missive, which was enrolled in Chancery in Ireland; and it seems that it was to the third justiceship that Booth was recommended, and not, as the Calendar gives it, to the second. The letter, which indicates royalist sympathies on the part of Booth, is addressed "to our right trusty and right welbeloved Councillors Sr Maurice Eustace, our Chancellor of Ireland, Roger Earle of Orrery, and Charles Earle of Mountrath, Lords Justices appointed by Vs for the Government of our Kingdome of Ireland." It is as follows:—

CHARLES R.

Right trusty and right entirely beloved Cousins and Counsellors Wee greet you well: We being informed by our right trusty and right welbeloved Sr Maurice Eustace our Lord Chancellor of that our Realme of Ireland Of the learning and sufficiencie of Robert Booth Esq., and his faithfulness to VS, doe hereby will and require to cause letters Patents to be made vnto him in due forme of lawe of the place or office of third Judge in our Court of Comon-Pleas in Ireland with all salaries, fees, perquisits, preheminencies, profits, and emoluments thereunto belonging, or any waies appertaining, To have and to hould the same to the said Robert Booth for and during our pleasure.

Given at our Court at Whitehall the first of December 1680.—By his Maes Comand

EDW: NICHOLAS.

Irrotulat' in Rotul' paten' Canc' Hibernie, &c., Anno Regn' Regis Caroli s'c'di duodecimo, et exa'i'at per RA: WALLIS,

Cleric: in offic. m'ri: Rot.

It was in the year after Booth became a knight that he was appointed Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland, 1669. The office of Lord Lieutenant was in Booth's time in the hands of the Duke of Ormonde and his sons, followed by the Earl of Essex, and these years comprise the period of the "settlement" of Ireland, when a judge's position was no sinecure. Booth's last and highest promotion was in the year 1679, when he was made Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

In the following year, being fifty-four years of age, the judge made his will, which is in the Prerog. Court, Cant. (55 North). The late Colonel Chester, the accomplished genealogist, most kindly made for me an abstract of it in the year 1877, as follows. The instrument is dated 2nd August, 1680. The testator describes himself as Sir Robert Booth, Knt., Chief Justice of H.M.'s Court of King's Bench in the kingdom of Ireland. He directs his body to be buried in the place lately made in Salford Chapel, in England. He bequeaths "all my lands in Stradbally, Croxtowne, and Ballyhooke, in Co. Dublin, in Ireland, to my brother Humphrey Booth and his heirs male of his body; remainder to my right heirs. To my nephew Robert Booth all my books. All my plate, jewels, rings, &c., and all my late dear wife's paraphernalia, equally among my dear daughters. All other real and personal estate in Ireland to my friends Sir Rd. Reynell, Knt. and Bart., one of the Justices of the King's Bench there, Sir John Temple, Knt., H.M.'s Solicitor General, and Mr. Thomas Crew; and I appoint them executors in trust as to my said estate in Ireland. My lands, &c., in Co. Lancaster were settled on my marriage to go at my death to my daughters. To my dear mother Ann Case £40; to my sister Hawes £50; to my cousin Edward Mosley £20; to my cousin William Crowther sundry books; to my daughter Elizabeth £100, which will be due from the executors of Sir Henry Oxinden at his death. I appoint executors as to my estate in England my father-in-law, Sir Henry Oxinden aforesaid, Sir James Oxinden his son, and my uncle Edward Mosley, Esq. All the residue equally amongst my said daughters at 21, or

when married after the age of 16. To my uncles Edward and Francis Mosley and my cousin Oswald Mosley £100, the interest whereof to be for the benefit of the clerk and sexton of Salford Chapel aforesaid; to poor of Salford £100."—*Proved* 15th April, 1681, by the said Sir Henry Oxinden, Knt. and Bart., and Sir James Oxinden, Knt., power being reserved to the said Edward Mosley, Esq.

Henry Newcome, most diligent in recording the exits of his friends, notes the Judge's burial on Wednesday, 2nd March, 1680-1, in these words: "Sir Robert Booth buried at Salford this day. Mr. Hyde preached on Is. lvii., 1." The date of the year is incorrect in the note in *Not. Cant.* ii, 94. Booth's benefaction is duly recorded by Gastrell: "Given by Sir Rob. Booth, L.C.J. of King's Bench, £100. Int. to ye clerk." It is to be regretted that the details of the Judge's life are too few and too general to arrive at an accurate estimate of his character. He was interested in his old school; and his name is on the list of feoffees in 1654 as "Robert Booth of Gray's Inn, Esquire" (Whatton's *Hist.*, p. 85; the relationship is very incorrectly given in the footnote).

The last will and testament of Sir Robert Booth, late Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench in the Kingdom of Ireland, and his estates, formed the subjects of litigation sixteen years afterwards. The complete records connected with this case (Exchequer Depositions, Michaelmas term, No. 49) would supply some of the other details inquired after. A commission was appointed on 23rd June, 1697, to take depositions; and it sat at Manchester on 2nd August, when it administered interrogatories. The plaintiff in the case was John Booth (an infant), the action being brought by Joseph Street, his next friend. The defendants were Robert Booth (also an infant) and his guardian, William Ashton. Reference is made to Robert Booth, the elder, late of Salford, father of the defendant Robert Booth, and clerk and gentleman-in-waiting to the said Sir Robert, and eldest son of Humphrey Booth, the elder, brother of the said Sir Robert; to Humphrey Booth, the younger; George Booth, third son of the said Humphrey Booth, the elder; Jeremy Booth, the fourth son; Edward Masters; Mary Beverley, married to the defendant's father (she was daughter of a Colonel Beverley); Sir Edw. Mosley, of Hulme, Kt., one of the executors and trustees of the said Sir Robert; and Elinor Jones, married to the said Humphrey, second son of said

Humphrey Booth, the elder. These details supply further additions to the family history, but the position of John Booth in the family tree is not explained. The defendant married in 1699 Frances, daughter of William Assheton, of Salford, Esq. The judge's daughters were Elizabeth, whose husband was one . . . Braithwaite; Mary, who was married to Hugh Griffith; Susan, who became the wife of Dr. Fielding, Canon of Sarum (described by Bishop Seth Ward as a very good man and an honour to the Church); and Anne, who died young. The name of the second wife of the elder Humphrey was Letitia Jones. This Humphrey was the subject of a query by Mr. Booker in *Notes and Queries* for 1857 (28., iii., p. 168). He says that Humphrey was living in Ireland in 1672. "I wish chiefly to learn the name of his wife and the date of his marriage and death, together with the names, &c., of his issue. His daughter Letitia married Nathaniel Gore of Arfaman and Newtown Gore (according to Burke) in 1711, ancestor of the present Sir Robert Gore Booth." This, with other matters wanting explanation, could doubtless be cleared up by the funeral certificates in the office of Ulster King-at Arms, in Dublin Castle.

Robert Booth was already destined in 1636 as the heir to the property of his grandfather Humphrey the Founder; for in the Inquisition *post mortem* of the latter, dated 1636, Robert is termed his grandson, aged nine years and not more. This instrument also refers to the disposition of the family property, enumerating the immediate heirs. It mentions John Booth, brother of Humphrey, and his son George Booth of Middleton; Robert, son of Humphrey, and Humphrey his brother, married to Anne, daughter to Ralph Hough of London; and Robert (the judge), and Humphrey and John his brothers (Christopher Towneley's Abstract MS. p. 27).

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford.

HAILSTONES.

(Query No. 3,557, July 19.)

[3,561.] Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY is probably abler than myself to answer his own query. I have never seen a satisfactory explanation of the structure of hailstones, nor one which I could properly understand. Perhaps I am somewhat obtuse. Volta held that rain and hailstones oscillate between clouds oppositely electrified, until by condensation they become so heavy as to be carried down, ultimately

reaching the ground. But if hailstones are so attracted, why should the clouds not be attracted until they unite? A second theory is that hailstones are due to whirlwinds, the axis of which is nearly horizontal. The rain drops, and, later, the hailstones are by the whirlwind swept round and round, from a warm to a cold stratum of the atmosphere. In the former water settles on the hailstones, and in the latter is frozen. This process continues until the weight of the hailstone carries it to the ground, or it is sent by centrifugal force beyond the influence of the rotatory motion of the whirlwind. A third theory is that vapour carried up by a whirlwind is first condensed into rain, then at a greater height is frozen. The hailstones which fall outside the whirlwind receive in the lower stratum of the air a coating of water, and those which get within the influence of the whirlwind are once more carried upwards, where the water is frozen, and sometimes a coat of snow is added. This theory explains the coatings which are found in hail, the number of coatings or crystals indicating the number of times the stone rose and fell before reaching the ground. Sometimes the nucleus of the hailstone is snow. This happens when snow falls into the rain stratum and receives a coating of water, which, being carried to a higher altitude, is frozen. The nature of the whirlwind, on this theory, has much to do with the form of the hailstones, which is, however, modified in the passage through a higher temperature to the ground.

The sizes and forms of hailstones are numerous, some being less than a pea, others of immense size. One fell in Hungary in 1832 three feet long and two feet thick. In 1849 a hailstone was seen in Scotland twenty feet in circumference. Heynes told of one that fell near Seringapatam, when Tippoo, our old enemy, was Sultan, which was almost as big as an elephant! The form of the stones described by Mr. BRIERLEY appear to me to have resembled some remarkable specimens noticed by Professor Abich in May and June, 1869, near Tiflis, in Georgia. Will Mr. BRIERLEY say what proportion the forms he describes had to the other forms which fell—that is, so far as he could judge from his observations?—S.M.

NEWSPAPER EDITORS.

(Nos. 3,545 and 3,548.)

[3,562.] The opinions respecting newspaper editors a century ago may be supplemented by the opinion expressed by De Quincey half a century later. It occurs in the *Westmorland Gazette* of December 12,

1818—of which paper he was at the time editor—in an account of the late Queen's funeral. Speaking of her Majesty's character, he is indignant at the "atrocious, most unchristian, and inhuman manner in which the discussion on this point has been conducted by the Jacobinical press of England. . . . In general, the editors of newspapers are low-bred, mercenary adventurers—without manners, without previous education, and apparently without conscience or moral principle." This is followed by an article on the Corn Laws (referring to a petition in favour of a protective duty), in which he says:—"The *Times* newspaper, when introducing the petition to the public notice, talks in the most presumptuous style of holding it up to disgust and execration, and uniformly speaks of it in the language of a lunatic. It is certainly highly laughable to hear an obscure editor of a newspaper, whose stake in the national property lies probably in the fee-simple of his own inkstand and the reversion of his grandmother's snuff-box, delivering his wrath against the combined landowners of two great counties of England, with whom the petition rose. . . . Editors of papers are, for the most part, grave elderly men, who ought, above all things, to avoid the suspicion of getting drunk." It may be right to add that this bitterness was an effect—the *Gazette* itself being a product—of the recent political struggle in the county between Brougham and the Lowthers, and was probably levelled at the editor (and proprietor) of the rival paper, who was also a publican. De Quincey came in for a good share of banter in the *Chronicle* as the "patrician editor." Altogether there was a pretty little quarrel, in the course of which the Patrician admits that "undoubtedly in some cases the editors of country newspapers are men of education and talent and honourable feelings; perhaps out of every score one may be of this description, whilst probably the other nineteen will deserve transportation."

W. WIPER.

Higher Broughton.

QUERIES.

[3,563.] **THROSTLE NEST PAPER MILLS.**—I have heard it stated that it is over a hundred years since the paper mills were first established at Throstle Nest. Is this correct?
T. L.

[3,564.] **TORBUCK, AN OLD MANCHESTER CLOCK-MAKER.**—Probably some of your readers can furnish information which will enable me to form an idea as

to the age of what may fitly be called a real original great "grandfather's clock," seeing that it is quietly performing its "daily rounds and common task" in the household of a third and rising fourth generation. Upon its venerable but bright and brassy face is engraved the name of "John Torbuck," Manchester. When did he flourish?
AN OUTSIDER.

CONVERTS TO ROME.

CONVERTS TO ROME: a List of over three thousand Protestants who have become Roman Catholics since the commencement of the Nineteenth Century. Compiled by W. Gordon Gorman. London: W. Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1884.

Is Rome gradually reconquering England? Various movements—Anglican, Tractarian, and Ritualistic—together with the so-called Papal Aggression of Pope Pius the Ninth, the creation of Roman Catholic bishops, the foundation of colleges, and the busy building of Catholic churches, have given rise to an impression in some timid quarters that Cardinals Wiseman, Manning, and Newman, and their persevering coadjutors, have been slowly winning back the ground which was lost in England some three centuries ago. To confirm and intensify the impression the editor and proprietor of the *Whitehall Review*, Mr. Edward Legge, himself apparently a former Protestant, set about cataloguing the more prominent English converts to the Roman faith, and, under the title of "Rome's Recruits," published the names from time to time in his paper. Reprinted in book-form the list ran through four editions; and now a fifth has appeared under the supervision of a new editor, Mr. Gordon Gorman, which contains a thousand more names than appeared in its immediate predecessor. Moreover the names have been classified under various heads—the nobility and gentry, the army and navy, the universities (specifying the several colleges), the medical and legal professions, men and women of letters, architects, and publishers. There is also a section devoted entirely to women, and it is almost needless to observe that this section comprises nearly one-half of the entire number of converts—said to be three thousand in all. Mr. Gordon Gorman in his Preface expresses himself surprised and highly delighted with the record of growth which he is able to present; but considering that it sums up the gains of over three-quarters of a century, it is doubtful whether it will afford as much gratification to the heads of his Church in Rome and to the chief Roman Catholic ecclesiastics in Britain

Mr. Gorman says, "I am informed that at several churches in London the number of converts annually received exceeds six hundred"—an extremely vague and, perhaps, misleading assertion, for it is not clear whether each church furnishes six hundred converts, or all the "several churches" put together. Some names, Mr. Gorman has since admitted, have been wrongly inserted, including Mr. J. O. Halliwell-Phillips, the Shakspearean scholar; Mr. D. C. Lathbury, of Brazenose College, Oxford; the Rev. S. W. Wayte, late president of Trinity College, Oxford; and the late Mr. Lucius Kelly, barrister-at-law.

In glancing over the list of converts the reader will hardly fail to notice the almost entire absence of eminent men of science. Professors Pepper (of the old Polytechnic), Barff, and St. George Mivart are perhaps the best known names, and they are certainly not impressive. Of men of recognized genius we have Cardinal Newman, Messrs. Coventry Patmore, Aubrey de Vere, and F. W. Faber, the poets, and the late A. W. Pugin, the architect. The peers include the Marquis of Bute, the Marquis of Ripon, Earls Abingdon, Ashburnham, Denbigh, Granard, and Oxford, Viscount Bury, and Lords Beaumont, Braye, and Emly. Music, art, and the stage contribute William Farreton, the actor, Charles Hallé, J. R. Herbert, R.A., Mrs. Butler-Thompson (painter of the Roll Call), Wybert Rousby, Charles Santley, Kyrle Bellew, and Alfred Bunn, the librettist. Amongst the authors the best known names are the late John Oxenford, John Edmund Reade, Clement Scott, F. Burnand (editor of *Punch*), Arthur Sketchley (the Rev. George Rose), Frank Marshall, dramatic critic; Florence Marryatt, daughter of Captain Marryatt, and herself a novelist; Edward Peacock, F.S.A.; the late Kenelm H. Digby; the late Adelaide Proctor; Madame Belloc, *née* Bessie Rayner Parkes, a Unitarian, and descendant of Dr. Priestley; Arthur and Gilbert A'Beckett; and Thomas Arnold, youngest son of Dr. Arnold, of Rugby. There are some half a dozen former Quakers in the list, including, of course, the late Frederick Lucas, a brother-in-law of Mr. John Bright's; and one Jewess, a Miss Rosenthal. The names of local interest comprise Colonel Clifton, of Lytham; John Kershaw, formerly a Unitarian, now monsignor and canon of Salford; Titus Hibbert-Ware, of Hale Barns, Cheshire; Lady Heywood, wife of Sir Percival Heywood, Bart.; Mrs. Milner Gibson, wife of the former M.P. for Manchester; Miss Alice O'Hanlon, Manchester; and the

son and daughter of Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P. Finally, we may note the names of Sir Walter Scott's granddaughter, Mrs. Hope Scott; several children of William Wilberforce, M.P., the eminent philanthropist; a son of the late Sir John Bowring; a grandson of Paley, author of the *Evidences*; a son of Sheridan Knowles; and the daughters of the celebrated Mrs. Somerville.

Mr. Gorman has not proved the case which he evidently has much at heart. He has compiled a catalogue of great interest to those who are watching the current and tendency of the age, and who especially desire to know the possibly hidden bent of such public instructors as the Editor of *Punch* or the authors of certain popular novels. But he has also disclosed to the discerning the nakedness of the land. The nineteenth century has been crowded with personalities of great mental power and genius. The name of only one of these commanding intellectual forces—John Henry Newman—appears in the list of the converts to Rome in the nineteenth century.

DIVORCE AND THE PRESS IN FRANCE.—The French Chamber and Senate have passed a divorce bill, and it is now law. Divorce by mutual consent is still to be inadmissible; but, with this exception, all the articles of the Civil Code authorizing divorce, which were abrogated by the law of 1816, are with some unimportant amendments re-enacted. A great rush—with Adelina Patti at its head—is expected on the courts, but in one respect the Divorce Court will not be so popular an institution in France as it is here, for the second article of the bill forbids under a penalty not exceeding £80 any report of the proceedings. They do manage some things better in France.

The death of the Rev. Mark Pattison, rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, which occurred on Wednesday at Harrogate, removes one of the ablest men of letters of the time, though, from the nature of his studies, not one of the most widely known and popular. He was in his seventy-first year. In early life he was a High Churchman, and belonged to the Tractarian school, but he afterwards separated himself altogether from this party, and in 1860 contributed to *Essays and Reviews* the well-known essay on "Tendencies of Religious Thought in England, 1688-1750." His greatest work was a biography of Isaac Casaubon; he also wrote a book on John Milton for the Eminent Men of Letter series; and he was engaged upon a biography of Scaliger. Recently he had been occupied in writing his "Recollections" of Oxford, but it is stated that this book is not to be published for a quarter of a century. Mr. Pattison married, in 1862, Emilia Frances, youngest daughter of the late General Strong, of the Madras army. Mrs. Pattison is known as a writer on art.

Saturday, August 2, 1884.

NOTES.

SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN'S TEMPEST MUSIC.

[3,565.] In the Dictionary of Music and Musicians, edited by Sir George Grove, there appears in the article on Sir Arthur Sullivan the following statement:—"The *Tempest* music has never—so far as the writer is aware—been used in a performance of the play; in fact, since Mr. Macready's time *The Tempest* has scarcely ever been put on the stage." Some of your readers might be deceived by this statement, appearing as it does in so valuable a work, so perhaps you will allow me to make a correction. The music used for the production of *The Tempest* at the opening of the Prince's Theatre, Manchester on October 15, 1864, was, with the exception of Dr. Arne's and Purcell's songs, that of Sir Arthur's, and contributed materially to the success of the piece, being entitled at any rate to share with Miss Julia St. George the honour of bringing about its reproduction in the following Easter. This is all the more worthy of mention from the fact that *The Tempest* exercised a most important influence on the fate of the Prince's. Originally intended as a vaudeville theatre (in fact it was within an ace of being called "The Lyric Theatre"), the success of their inaugural performance appeared as a revelation to the proprietors, and resulted in that series of Shakspearean revivals, under the management of Mr. Charles Calvert, which placed the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, in a front position in the history of the drama.

The Tempest, with Sir Arthur's music, was played also for some weeks at each place at Liverpool and Bradford, Yorkshire, under Mr. Calvert's direction.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AN OLD MANCHESTER CLOCKMAKER.

(Query No. 3,564, July 28.)

[3,566.] In my list of Manchester clockmakers I find that John Tarbuck, of St. Mary Gate, Manchester, was married at the Collegiate Church (now Cathedral) November 2, 1697, to Hannah Warburton. He had a family, and was buried at the Collegiate Church July 2, 1739. The name is spelt variously Torbock, Tarbock, and Tarbuck.

J. OWEN.

* * *

I do not know who John Torbuck was, or when

he flourished in Manchester, but evidently both Lancashire and Cheshire were noted for their clocks in the last century. I have a remarkably fine eight-day clock, in excellent preservation and keeping most accurate time, with eight most sweet-toned bells, as well as one striking bell playing a tune every four hours. The dial is unique, with four angels' heads in brass at each corner, all the phases of the Moon and day of the month, going correctly, and the name of the maker "John Clayton, Marple," in large characters on the dial. But what is singular, on the back of the movement is engraved "Ralph Clayton's clock, 1750." Who was John Clayton, and what relationship (if any) would there be between him and Ralph Clayton; and how could so small and in those days insignificant a place as Marple find business enough for so clever a mechanic as John Clayton most undoubtedly must have been? The tall case has a bottom to it, a thing, I was assured by a practical clockmaker, rarely found in these old cases at the present day, the clock and case being evidently in the same condition as when made one hundred and thirty-four years ago.

I have a friend who has a very fine clock of the last century (maker's name G. Ainsworth, Warrington,) in capital going order. Walley of Liverpool was likewise a famous man either the end of the seventeenth or beginning of the eighteenth.

JAMES BEARD.

The Grange, Slade Lane.

THROSTLE NEST PAPER MILLS.

(Query No. 3,563, July 28.)

[3,567.] The *Manchester Mercury* for February, 1770, contains the following:—

To be sold, all that newly-erected Paper Mill, constructed on the most improved method for making of writing and printing paper, over which is a drying loft, containing 107 feet long and 25 feet broad, with tribles and lines suitable; also two engines, two vats, two stuff chests, and presses of the best kind, and all the implements and other necessary utensils for carrying on the works; and also all that newly-erected messuage or dwelling-house and stables, with the appurtenances near to the said mill, and an acre and a half of land, situate in Stretford, near the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal and on the banks of the navigable Irwell. All which premises were late the property and in the tenure of Mr. William Appleton, paper maker, deceased, and are held by virtue of three several leases, one from Humphrey Trafford, Esq., for 99 years, determinable upon the death of three lives therein named, under the yearly rent of £15, and the other two from the Committee of the Mersey and Irwell Navigation for the residue of two several terms of 40 years absolute, commencing from

the 25th of March, 1765, and from the determination thereof for the further term of 59 years, if the said river should continue a navigable river, under the several yearly rents of £30 and £1. 10s. For further particulars enquire of Mr. James Appleton at the premises.

The James Appleton named was a resident of Smedley. J. OWEN.

* * *

I cannot say when these mills were established, but the following advertisement, taken from the *Manchester Mercury* of October 25, 1774, proves their existence a century ago:—

Manchester, June 14, 1774.

Paper Manufactory.—Notice is hereby given that the Paper Mills at Throstle Nest, near the town, are now fully employed in the making writing and printing paper; and also all kinds suitable and proper for wrapping the various manufactures of Manchester. A warehouse is likewise opened in Pool Fold for the sale of the above articles, where an agent will constantly attend every day in the week (Sundays excepted). All persons who are pleased to favour the proprietors with their orders may be assured of having them executed with the greatest fidelity and dispatch, and on the most reasonable terms. By Messrs. Smith and Co.

FRED LEARY.

Clock Alley.

* * *

In the Manchester and Salford Directory for 1788, in the list given of "Country Tradesmen attending the Manchester Market," I find "Smith and Ingle, Throstle Nest, paper makers;" so that, at least, ninety-six years ago there was an established paper mill at Throstle Nest. In the same list I note another name still well known in the paper trade, viz., Crompton; four of this name are given—one at Collyhurst, and the three others at Lever and Lower Darley. There are also four more paper makers named in this Directory. Evidently this industry was fairly flourishing in our neighbourhood a century or so ago.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

QUERIES.

[3,568.] TRICYCLE ROUTE TO CONWAY.—Which is the best tricycle route from Manchester to Conway, and what are the distances and accommodation?

W. A. T.

[3,569.] CYCLING IN NORFOLK.—Can any reader give me information about Norfolk—what sort of roads there are, and if suitable for tricycle; and what sort of boating and fishing?

CYCLE (Bury).

[3,570.] THE OLDHAM FAMILY, MANCHESTER.—Adam Oldham died January 28, 1784, at Manchester; his first wife died June, 1773, and he married October 17, 1776, Eliza, daughter of Josiah Roberts, by whom he had one son, Adam, born 1781. Any information concerning the above, his parentage, and family, will be gratefully received. Adam Oldham, the elder, is said to have been a personal friend of John Wesley, and a magistrate or borough-reeve of Manchester. Some property in Oldham-street remained till recently in the family. OMIKRON.

[3,571.] SUICIDE BY INHALATION.—Julian Hawthorne, in his novel *Dust*, makes one of the characters commit suicide in the following manner:—She places a fluid (colourless) in a small crystal lamp and lights the wick; the latter burns with a pale bluish flame, emitting an intense heat. She then stoops quickly down, takes a sharp deep breath, making the flame leap far down her throat. "She reeled backwards without a sound and fell on the sofa. A few convulsive movements shook her, and then she lay still her head thrown back and her eyes half closed." Will any reader kindly say what the fluid was?

J. CHRONELL.

[3,572.] MASTER ASPULL.—On the 22nd of June, 1825, there appeared at a concert at the Exchange Dining-room, Manchester, Master George Aspull, a native of the town, and a piano player. The boy, whose age is not given, is described by the papers of the day as having "extraordinary musical talent." "It would not be fair," continues the critic, "to compare his playing with that of Master Liszt, who is considerably older. In one respect, however, we conceive Master Aspull has decidedly the advantage. Young as he is, and unable, from his diminutive size, to reach the pedals of the instrument with his feet, he possesses a power and firmness of tone which we rarely, if ever, heard surpassed; and his execution is such as to leave no doubt that he will become a player of the very first order. His extempore playing also, displays very great taste and science." Can any reader say what became of Master Aspull, or give other information concerning him?

TRELA.

"Esq."—A journal published in the town of Burnham, a small but popular resort on the Somersetshire coast, has the following note at the head of its "List of Visitors":—"The word 'Esq.' charged three-pence prepaid."

Saturday, August 9, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE OLDHAM FAMILY, OF OLDHAM-STREET,
MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,570, August 2.)

[3,573.] If OMIKRON will communicate with me I shall be glad to compare notes with him respecting the above family. I have a pedigree of the family compiled by the Rev. John Roberts Oldham, who was born at what is now the Albion Hotel, built by his grandfather Adam Oldham. J. OWEN.

MASTER ASPULL.

(Query No. 3,572, August 2.)

[3,574.] George Aspull was born in 1814, and died at Leamington, after a brief but talented career, August 20, 1832, and was buried at Nottingham on the 22nd of the same month. He left a number of manuscript compositions for the pianoforte. These were eventually published under the title of "George Aspull's Posthumous Works for the Pianoforte."

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum.

NORFOLK.

(Query No. 3,569, August 2.)

[3,575.] Most reliable information relating to the boating and fishing in Norfolk may be found in the work *Norfolk Broads and Rivers*, by G. C. Davies; published in 1883. The author has spent several seasons upon the lagoons and waterways of that district, and the work will be found to give full particulars. He is also the author of a number of guide-books to the same locality.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

OLD LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE CLOCKMAKERS:
THE CLAYTONS OF MARPLE.

(Nos. 3,564 and 3,566.)

[3,576.] A relative of mine possesses a clock by Ralph Clayton of Marple, but it is without the chimes. In the interior is engraved "Osborne & ———, manufacturers, Birmingham," so that a clockmaker of that day may not have been so clever a mechanic as might have been supposed, when he could buy them ready made from the manufacturers. My relative's account of her clock is that it was

bought from Ralph Clayton soon after her grandfather's marriage, about 1797. It certainly is not so old as 1750. I do not find any monument of Ralph Clayton at Marple or neighbourhood; there is a John Clayton of Marple about 1800, but he is not mentioned as a clockmaker.

As Mr. BEARD mentions Walley of Liverpool, I may say there is a Latin inscription on a tombstone at Bolton recording the burial of a "Robertus Walley, Horologarius," who died the 7th of January, 1685. There were also two Samuel Whalley's in Manchester, clockmakers. The earlier one was buried in 1744.

J. OWEN.

* * *

The John Clayton your correspondent Mr. JAMES BEARD inquires about (Note 3,566) was the son of George Clayton, clockmaker, of Lambashey, in Marple, and his wife Elizabeth. He had three sisters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Phoebe. He was overseer of the poor in 1736, was constable for the higher end of Marple in 1755-6, and for several years afterwards. Also he was chapel warden in the year 1759. His accounts for the above, in my possession, contain many quaint entries, amongst others a sum of £2. 12s. 6d. for a new "phaunt" at Marple Chapel, 1759; also for washing surplice twice, and taking out iron "moles" 3s. I have also his mother's will, dated Feby. 22, 1745-6, in which she bequeaths, amongst other things, her couch chair, bed, clock, and spinning wheel to her daughters, concluding as follows:—"And my further desire is that they fall not out about ye same, but at all times hereafter love one another cordially." On looking over the accounts for the several years named, I find that in 1712 George Clayton, the father of John Clayton, was overseer of the poor for Marple, his accounts being passed and signed by "Henry Bradshaw." I may mention that I have deeds connected with this family from the reign of James the First, with signatures of Sir Edward Stanley, the Bradshaw family, and others, which, if you wish, I shall be glad to place at your disposal for inspection.

CIVIS.

TRICYCLING ROUTE TO CONWAY.

(Query No. 3,568, August 2.)

[3,577.] As I have recently passed over the road on a bicycle from Manchester to Conway and thence to Beaumaris, it gives me much pleasure to describe my route. Two one-shilling maps should be pro-

vided—Bacon's Cheshire and Bacon's North Wales. The roads are not difficult, indeed I know of very few smoother or better made roads in the kingdom. In going to Chester the best road is the old mail coach road *via* Altrincham, Rostherne Mere, Northwich, Delamere, and Chester. From Chester follow the tram lines over the Grosvenor Bridge to Saltney, then pass Hawarden, the seat of the G. O. M.; then through Northop, Holywell, and St. Asaph. When at St. Asaph the best road to Abergele is not *via* Rhyddlan, but *via* Bodlewyddan Church. It is only six miles by this latter route, but by the former it is eleven miles to Abergele. From Abergele to Colwyn Bay and Conway the road is straight.

About this part of the country the natives—either from an imperfect knowledge of English, or, may be, a cheap desire to please—say “yes” to every query addressed to them; therefore the cyclist must be very cautious in proceeding.

There is good accommodation all the way—the King's Head, Holywell, Mostyn Arms at St. Asaph, Bee Hotel at Abergele, Marine Hotel, Colwyn Bay. From Manchester to Chester it is 40 miles; Chester to St. Asaph, 30 miles; from St. Asaph to Abergele, six miles; from Abergele to Conway, twelve miles. Total, 88 miles.

The cost on a bicycle from Eccles to Beaumaris, 110 miles, including bed at Chester, was about one penny per mile, as the 110 miles cost 8s. 2d. On a tricycle add from thirty to fifty per cent for reasons obvious.

ALFRED J. BAILEY (of Eccles).

Bulkeley Terrace, Beaumaris.

QUERIES.

[3,578.] THE MANCHESTER MERCURY. — The earliest number that I have seen of this paper is dated October 25th, 1774, and can be seen in our Reference Library. Mr. Owen (*City News*, August 2) quotes from a copy nearly five years older, and I have seen a “Geographical History of Great Britain,” fifty-three numbers, containing 448 pages, octavo, issued with this periodical in 1763-4. Can anyone give the date of first number? The copy in the Library is numbered 1,213. Presuming that it was issued weekly from the commencement, this would place its first number about the middle of the year 1751. Is this correct, and was it called *The Manchester Mercury and Harrop's General Advertiser* from the beginning?

F. L.

Saturday, August 16, 1884.

NOTES.

ANTIQUITIES OF THE WALLASEY PENINSULA IN CHESHIRE.

[3,579.] Can any of your readers give an account of the southern shore of the Wallasey Peninsula? There must be an interesting history attached to it, from Neston to Hilsea Island. Some few years ago, before any alteration had been made to Heswall old church, there were built into the western (or north-western) outside wall of an aisle (which had evidently been added as a new part, though it must have been over 200 years ago) a number of what appeared to be red stone coffin lids, and upon them could then still be seen figures, nearly all combining some kind of cross, crozier, mitre, sword, and belt, and frequently a double star in one corner. It would appear from this that at some time or other this was the burial place of some of the old mitred and belted abbots, the fighting churchmen of long ago. May it not have been, and is it not probable, that a line of coast defences existed on this coast; for then the Dee would have been deep water, and not nearly so wide as now; and if not so, how were the Welsh kept from landing here instead of choosing Chester always, a fortified city, to fight against? There is an ancient secluded hall, called Oldfield, some mile or so from Heswall Church, which has been in the same family for 250 years. This has very evidently been a stronghold at some time, and it is said by tradition that a subterranean passage existed or exists between the two. Gayton Hall, on the other side, was the place where William slept before sailing for Ireland from Parkgate, two and a half miles to the south-east. This is a most charming country and interesting neighbourhood, easily accessible from Manchester, and I can only marvel that our local antiquarians, field naturalists, and others, do not more frequent it. Unfortunately the Goths and Vandals who “improved” the old church broke up the relics I mentioned to put in the foundations of the new building, but some fragments may yet remain. The font of the church, when last I saw it, was standing by the vicar's pigstye! Fancy the desecration! Two much more ancient fonts are, or were, to be seen in the vicarage garden—one extremely ancient, evidently Saxon, I should think, which would carry us a long way back.

H. G. B. T.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

OLD CLOCKS AND CLOCKMAKERS.

(No. 3,564, and others.)

[3,580.] I have a clock in my possession which is a most excellent time-keeper. The face is brass, but appears as if at one time it had been silvered over. It has some rather quaint engraving on it, and within a kind of scroll there is the name Adam Costen, Kirkham. On the top of the wooden case, in raised yellow letters and figures, is 17. R. S. 66. From my late wife's relatives I learn that the clock had been in their possession since it was made in 1766, and the initials R. S. was one Robert or Richard Swan, the maker of the clock case.

G. D.

Bowdon.

THE MANCHESTER MERCURY.

(Query No. 3,578, August 9.)

[3,581.] The first number of the *Manchester Mercury* appeared March 3, 1773, so that "F. L." is nearly a year wrong in his guess at the date of its earliest issue. The title was altered to *Harrop's Manchester Mercury and General Advertiser* shortly afterwards. It was carried on by father and son till August, 1825, when it was sold to Mr. J. E. Taylor, and the last number (3,672) was issued in December, 1830, after an existence of seventy-eight years all but two months. "F. L." will find these facts, and others concerning the paper, in the *Manchester Historical Recorder*, edition 1874, pp. 42, 43, and 45. ION.

* * *

A complete set of the *Manchester Mercury*, with the exception of a few numbers, from its commencement in 1752 to November, 1825, will be found in the Chetham Library.

E. MACKAY YOUNG.

Manchester.

QUERIES.

[3,582.] **STONE PRIMERS.**—I cut the following from a newspaper of the present week:—"In the graveyard of the village of Newtown, Linford, in Leicestershire, there is a tombstone made out of a slab of slate—there are extensive slate quarries in the district—which, by way of inscription, bears the letters of the alphabet, rudely carved first in capitals and then in small letters. The date is about the middle of last century." Is it not more probable that the stone in question erected before schools or

books were plentiful, was so erected, not as a tombstone at all, but as a fixed and lasting "primer" for the use of the youth of that time? Cannot other and similar instances be found, such as letters on belfry doors, and so on? We have many tales of noted men who learnt their letters from tombstones.

H. G. B. T.

A STRAW WATCH.—A piece of work of unparalleled patience and ingenuity is reported from Karthaus, in Bohemia, the wonderful workman being a youth at present in prison for five years for theft. He has turned his enforced leisure to use, and manufactured a straw watch five centimetres in diameter by two in thickness. The works of this diminutive timepiece comprised a few bits of straw, some cotton, two needles, and a pin, a small piece of paper forming the dial. It is said to go six hours running, and could be made to go twelve with a few improvements.

AN ARCHITECTURAL FREAK: WHAT NEXT?—The eccentric taste of the day in building has surely reached its extreme development in Coney Island, New York. It is a hotel called the Elephant, taking that remarkable and not particularly euphonious title from its shape. The building is constructed in the perfect form of an elephant. It is 122 feet high and 150 feet long, and it stands on a high platform 350 feet square. The view from the howdah of this remarkable quadruped is certainly very fine, and rewards the aspiring critic. The materials are iron and wood, covered with tin, and some idea of its size may be gathered from the fact that there were 7,000,000 feet of timber employed in the construction of the body, the circumference of which is 168 feet; the neck is 108 feet long, the legs are 60 feet, the trunk is 52 feet. Inside the legs there are forty stairs, and there are stairs also in the trunk. The hotel will, it is estimated, accommodate with ease 6,000 persons.

RELICS OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS.—Some important discoveries, of great interest to antiquarians, have been made on the Yorkshire wolds by the Rev. E. M. Cole, vicar of Wetwang, Yorkshire, namely, a large number of entrenchments, which are supposed to have been the work of the Ancient Britons. The dale "heads," it has been ascertained are all covered with entrenchments, and a village called Fimber appears to be completely surrounded by them, as if it had been an enormous camp. Two theories as to their original use have been started—(1), that they were for military purposes; and (2), that they served as tribal boundaries. In one of these entrenchments, near the monument to the late Sir Tatton Sykes, at Garton, a large number of dead bodies were found, but the idea is not entertained that they were used for purposes of burial. According to Mr. J. R. Mortimer, a well-known Yorkshire archaeologist, the entrenchments are mostly V-shaped; they appear to have been much used, and are trodden hard and firm. Some he had opened were four or five feet deep; the bottom was never more than one and a-half or two feet wide, and the top measured from eight feet to ten feet across. The question will shortly be discussed at a meeting of the Yorkshire Geological Society.

Saturday, August 23, 1884.

NOTES.

FEFNICUTE.

[3,583.] I remember, when a lad, a valued friend of mine—a shrewd and clever woman, and an excellent judge of character—used to apply to a certain or particular kind of persons, by no means scarce, an epithet that always seemed to me happily and expressively descriptive, but why so I have never been, nor am I now, able to explain satisfactorily. The epithet is “Fefnicate,” and she used to apply it to persons of feeble moral and intellectual endowments, but of some cunning, and spuriously amiable and complaisant. Occasionally, but not often, I hear it used now, and am afraid it is likely to be lost. Perhaps it never was very common, as I do not recollect ever having seen it in print either in general or in our literature of the local dialect. It belongs to the folk-speech of South-East Lancashire, and it seems to me should have a place in the excellent “Glossary” compiled by Messrs. Nodal and Milner. Natives of Milnrow and the uplands of Blackstone Edge will have heard it sometimes made use of, and it is a little curious that neither Collier (Tim Bobbin) nor Waugh ever use it. I wonder if Mr. Cunliffe, of Rochdale, has got it amongst his collection of dialectal and archaic words. Sam Bamford must never have heard of it, or it would have been found in some of his hard and gritty delineations of the genera, cant and humbug. MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[The word is entered in the latest Lancashire Glossary (E.D.S.) as follows:—“Thefnicate or Fefnicate, sb. a sneaking person, a hypocrite.” It should, of course, have appeared under F.—fefnicate being the more usual form. The word was not infrequently used in Manchester about 1840, when bits of the old folk-speech still lingered amongst the older and middle-aged inhabitants. Sam Bamford knew the word. In the glossary appended to his edition of Tim Bobbin (second edition, 1854), he gives:—“Fefnicate, sometimes Thefnicate, a hypocrite, a parasite, a hanger-on.” The meaning as defined by Mr. Morgan Brierley is more closely and minutely accurate, and in this sense the word has no equivalent in standard English. It ought not to be lost.—Ed.]

THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.

[3,584.] A correspondent in Saturday’s Notes and Queries (No. 3,581) says that a copy of the *Manchester Mercury* can be seen in the Chetham Library. Now we are well aware that this Library contains many

literary treasures, but as far as the “common people” for whom they were originally meant are concerned, they might as well be sunk in the ocean, fifty fathoms deep.

It is a well-known fact to those who have given any attention to the subject, that funds properly belonging to the Library have been misappropriated to the Hospital, and as a consequence the Library has kept no sort of pace with the progress of the Hospital.

The Library is said to contain nearly ten thousand venerable folios and quartos—in these days almost as truly the monuments of an extinct generation as are the mammoth and the ichthyosaurus. But many of the valuable works it contains are imperfect, and if its old books are excellent, they need to be better supplemented by new ones. Considering, however, the income and expenditure of the Library, its poverty in respect of recent literature is no subject of surprise; and it is quite as natural that we should find a very large number of old books in decayed and tattered bindings. The only chance of improvement in the condition and public usefulness of the Library lies in its severance altogether from the Hospital.

I am informed that the average daily number of readers at the Chetham Library amounts to ten, whilst the daily average at the Reference Library must amount to two or three hundred. In short, it may be said that more use is made of the books in the Reference Library in twelve months than is made of those in the Chetham Library in a century. If these facts could be placed before a resuscitated Humphrey Chetham, who can doubt the view he would take of them? If moreover, we could tell him that all those “godly English books . . . proper for the edification of the common people,” which he directed “to be chained upon desks or fixed in other convenient places, in the parish churches of Manchester and Bolton . . . and the chapels of Turton, Walmaley, and Gorton,” have to a book disappeared, not by wear or bad usage, but by the neglect and cupidity of churchwardens long since in their graves—can any one believe that he would hesitate a minute to transfer his Library to the keeping of the city, and thus multiply the securities for its careful preservation and augmentation, and increase a hundred-fold its usefulness.

But this is not all. The same step which would change the torn and rotting covers of the books into sound and respectable bindings, which would com-

plete many a valuable but at present imperfect series of volumes, and fill up many a gap by adding the most recent works in every department of knowledge, would also enable the feoffees to carry out more efficiently that enlargement of the Hospital, which they and their predecessors have begun. It would not only afford them the means of increasing the number of boys to be maintained and educated, but would enable them to improve the character of the education afforded.

No doubt an Act of Parliament would be needed to effect a separation of the Library from the Hospital. But there can be no doubt that the Corporation of Manchester, were such a proposal submitted to it, would be willing to join the feoffees in applying for such an Act, and would undertake to maintain the Library for the free and perpetual use of the public in connection with that already belonging to the city. The Chetham books might be preserved intact as a collection, and remain a public and perpetual memorial of the founder. The fine old building would become wholly available for the uses of the school, and thus we would possess both a better Chetham Hospital, and a better Chetham Library, and the wishes and intentions of our liberal benefactor would be more efficiently realised than they ever can be under existing circumstances.

A WORKING MAN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ANTIQUITIES OF WALLASEA PENINSULA.

(No. 3,579, August 16.)

[3,585.] In one of my rambles years ago in the Hundred of Wirral I visited Heswall Church, and made slight sketches of the old gravestones which have been cut and squared and built into the north side of the nave. The crosses and other figures are simply incised and very much worn. Two have swords on the right of the crosses; one, which has been cut to fit as a portion of a window sill, has evidently been a cross crosslet. Another was the pattern of one which I found doing duty as a lintel in the tower of Thornton Church. The north side of the church, where these stones are, appeared to have been lately rebuilt, and the probability is they may have been found in pulling down the old wall. The south side has the date 1739 and the initials R. C., T. P., wardens. The tower is earlier—perhaps about

the time of Henry the Seventh. In the church is a bread shelf, inscribed "The gift of Mr. Thomas Gleave, citizen of Lond. I B—I G—C. W." There is one in Woodchurch, given by the same person, dated 1641.

At Wallasea I found the church had been rebuilt on another site, but the old roofless tower remained standing alone, bearing the date about 1530—I am not certain to a year or two. On ascending the new staircase I found built into the wall what remained of a circular incised cross. I never ascend an old tower without examining minutely for traces of old work. Very often the lintels inside the belfry windows prove to be ancient gravestones. In the graveyard lay an ancient gravestone or coffin lid elaborately carved, having sword and cross and an inscription in Lombardic characters. Getting into conversation with the sexton, he informed me that once in digging a grave he turned up the carved bowl of a piscina, or, as he termed it, "the holy water pot." He told me, with an appearance of self-congratulation, that he took it home, and broke it into pieces to pave before the door of his cottage.

J. OWEN.

* * *

The district mentioned by H. G. B. T. is known, not as the Wallasea Peninsula, but the Worrall (formerly Wirral and Willeraston), and it has no southern shore—only eastern, western, and northern. The peninsula extends from Chester to Wallasea (or Walley by the Sea), is about twenty miles in length, averages six miles in breadth, and is rich in historic, antiquarian, geological, and botanical lore. Formerly the district on the northern shore was a forest, as per nomenclature of Woodchurch, Birkenhead (or Birchhead), and Birkenhaven. Forest remains have been dug up at Seacomb, Wallasea, Leasowe, Meols, and Hoose or Hoylake, and between the latter place and Leasowe embankment a submarine forest is exposed by the action of the sea. In Leasowe Castle an old couplet or inscription says—

From Birkenhaven to Hillbarea

A squirrel might hop from tree to tree.

Tramping along the Western Shore, or Dee Side, I have observed foundation stones of ruined buildings by the washing away of the banks, where hundreds of acres of fine land has gone to silt up the ancient Port of Parkgate, and in the neighbourhood of Dawpool Deep, where the same process is still going on, the perpendicular face of the clay bank is studded with

pebbles looking like hailstones at a distance, and on the northern shore, at Hoose, I noticed stratum in the bank as if the land had been raised and again submerged and raised again during three periods of time. Also along this northern shore have been found numerous antiquities illustrating prehistoric times and ancient British and Roman occupancy, and in the quarries are found antediluvian footprints, some of which resemble the human hands. At Loughall lived a horned woman, whose likeness and one of her horns is said to be in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford; and in the Church of St. Oswald, Backford, is, or used to be, a very ancient Bible chained to the desk. At Pool Hall some years ago a quantity of weapons were found in the mud at the bottom of the pool or pond. At Bidston Hall is a grand ancient archway. At Shotwick stood a castle mentioned in 1228 as built to overawe the Welsh raiders, and in 1622 is described as of pentagon form with six towers, one of them five stories high, but only a mound and entrenchment now remain. The Peninsula is easily reached from Manchester via Frodsham and Hooton, but is almost inaccessible by the Hoylake and Deeside route via Birkenhead, leastwise for time and comfort.

Liverpool.

J. D.

QUERIES.

[3,583.] THE DAM AT LYMM.—Can anyone give the date, even approximately, of the construction of the great reservoir at Lymm, locally called "the dam," and which has so many of the features of a beautiful natural mere? The parapet of the embankment at the foot, or at the head of "the glen" bears the date 1821; but this surely must refer to some reconstruction or improvement, since the "oldest inhabitant" can give no information.

LEO.

[3,587.] CARLYLE'S LANCASHIRE PEDLAR.—The current number of *Macmillan's Magazine* contains an interesting sketch of Carlyle's relations with Joseph Neuberg, his faithful and voluntary literary assistant from 1849 to Neuberg's death in 1867, to whom he owed so much in connection with his laborious work on the *Life of Frederick the Great*. Several of Carlyle's letters are here published for the first time, and in one of them, written in July, 1851, just after a visit to the first of the great exhibitions, the following passage occurs:—"To look once at this glass

palace was (if you forget all else) perceptibly pleasant; but to have gone to study, to think, or to learn anything in it would almost have driven a serious man mad. 'Improvement in manufactures!' I have often said the grandest specific bit of improvement ever made in manufactures was effected, not in a big glass soap bubble, presided over by Prince Albert and the general assembly of prurient windbags out of all countries, but under the torn hat, once, of a Lancashire pedlar selling washballs and cheap razors through the hill country—pedlar and barber who chanced to have a head that he could employ in *thinking* under said hat!" The italics are Carlyle's. Who is the Lancashire pedlar to whom he refers? Is Arkwright intended? Barber he was, we know, but what about the peddling, the washballs, and the razors?

ION.

LADY TEAZLE.—It is odd that amateurs are so fond of playing Lady Teazle, for the part is so difficult a one—although apparently easy—that it is a saying in the profession that no one can do justice to it without a theatrical experience of at least forty years. Not one actress now on the stage is able to do it justice.—*Truth*.

WHEAT CHEAPER THAN FOR 100 YEARS.—Wheat is cheaper now than it has been for a full century. In the first half of the present year the average price in the markets of England, as recorded weekly in the *London Gazette*, was only £1. 17s. 8d. per quarter. We have to go back to 1780 to find as low a price. In the interval of 104 years the quarter of wheat has been only twice under £2. The significance of these facts will not be missed. The new communities of the world have been exerting themselves since the repeal of the corn-laws to supply our markets with wheat, and the production has in consequence so greatly extended, that now at last we seem to have reached a point at which the price of wheat must remain permanently low.

The committee of the Incorporated Society of Authors consists of Mr. Walter Besant, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Mr. A. Egmont Hake, Mr. H. C. Merivale, Mr. S. G. C. Middlemore, Rev. C. H. Middleton-Wake, Mr. Walter Herries Pollock, and E. M. Underdown, hon. counsel. In their first report they state that a sub-committee has been appointed on dramatic copyright, another on international copyright, and a third on the registration of titles. The committee is now inviting the most eminent writers in all branches of literature, in foreign countries, to become honorary fellows. The whole number of members is now 186, consisting of the president (Lord Tennyson), 69 vice-presidents, and 116 fellows and associates. The committee has resolved to accept as associates, not only those who have adopted literature as a profession, but all those who desire to support and advance the cause of letters, and it has been decided that a certain proportion of the subscriptions shall every year be set aside for management, while the rest shall be allowed to become the nucleus of a fund to be invested for the general purposes of the society.

Saturday, August 30, 1884.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: DICKENSON AND
BOOTLE-STREETS AND TASLE ALLEY.

[3,588.] In September, 1747, Samuel Dickenson, of Manchester, linen dyer, eldest son and heir-at-law of a lately deceased Samuel Dickenson, following the same occupation, conveyed to Samuel Hope, brick-layer, a plot of land in the neighbourhood of the present Albert Square, forming part of a field called the Tasle Croft, upon another portion of which a dye-house belonging to Mr. Dickenson was erected. It appears that the Tasle Croft had been purchased by the elder Dickenson from Edward Bootle, of Manchester, gentleman, and Jonathan Stockton, of the same place, chapman. We have here, I conclude, an indication of the origin of the names of the existing Dickenson-street, Bootle-street, and Tasle Alley. An adjoining field is described as Kersley's Croft. This name does not seem to have been perpetuated in the neighbourhood.

W. H.

LIVERPOOL AND THE PROJECTED SHIP CANAL IN
1825.

[3,589.] In looking over the *City News Notes and Queries* for 1881 I come across a song, "The Manchester Ship Canal, as sung by Mr. Hammond at the Theatre Royal, Manchester" (No. 2,195, March 12, 1881). I may say that this song is from a broadside, printed by J. Pigot and Son, 16, Fountain-street, and as it furnished the Manchester version of the first Ship Canal project, a suitable counterpart may be gleaned from the *Liverpool Mercury*, *Kaleidoscope*, and kindred journals of the period. No lack of squibs and satirical comments, in prose or verse, saluted the scheme during the whole of the year 1825. Here are a few:—

LIVERPOOL *versus* MANCHESTER.

In consequence of the recent project of converting Manchester into a seaport by making a navigable ship canal from the Irish Sea, at the mouth of the Dee, direct to Manchester, we have to announce that a company has been established in Liverpool, called the Liverpool Joint-Stock Cotton Company, with a capital of ten millions (be the same more or less), the object of which is to erect at least one hundred cotton factories in Liverpool, which project, amongst other beneficial results, will entirely ruin Manchester. A few shares in this promising establishment may be secured by immediate application to Messrs. Moonshine and Co.

THE MANCHESTER BUBBLE.

These lords of the shuttle,
By a process most subtle,
A canal mean to cut from the ocean;
And the great Irish Sea
They'll unite with the Dee,
But its Fiddle-de-Dee I've a notion.

Humble petition of the Liverpool Corporation to the
Manchester projectors of the Grand Ship Canal:—

O, ye lords of the loom,
Pray avert our sad doom,
We humbly beseech on our knees;
We do not complain,
That *you* drink your champagne,
But leave us our *port* if you please.

Your sea scheme abandon
For railroads the land on,
And, to save us from utter perdition,
Cut your throats if you like,
But don't cut the dyke;
And this is our humble petition.

Shipped (by the power of steam) in good order and condition, by Simon Simple and Co., in the good ship called the Whale, whereof John Miracle is master for this present voyage, now riding at anchor on Kersal Moor Dry Dock, in this port of Manchester, and bound for Utopia.

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL.

A! we shall B outdone if the C be let in at the D!
There's a drop in the E.

S. W. Ryley, the well-known itinerant, wrote a comic song on the same theme for the Liverpool press, beginning:—

Oh! here's a pretty ruin brewing!
What the deuce is here a-doing?
Since the world's turned upside down.

Columns of similar effusions might be quoted. The Ship Canal, however, has got over the stage of ridicule; but it is worthy of note that we have heard something lately of the establishment of cotton mills in Liverpool.

FRED. LEARY.

Clock Alley, Corporation-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ANTIQUITIES OF WALLASEA PENINSULA.

(Nos. 3,579 and 3,585.)

[3,590.] Mr. OWEN's Note is interesting, but as to Heswall he writes of what was, but now alas! is not. He is in error, too, as to the stones he mentions being gravestones. If he has preserved his sketches, he will see that they were, as I say, coffin lids, coffin shaped. He says, "with swords on the right of the cross," but he does not appear to have noticed those with swords on either side of the cross, and with a

mitre on top of the cross. I confess I do not understand a "cross crosslet," and my encyclopædia does not give it. The belt was plain enough, with the mitre, the cross (no doubt the then "pastoral staff"), and the two swords, but every vestige, I fear, is gone for ever now. I did not know that any specimens existed at Thornton. If it were a hundred years ago the rebuilding of the north transept (to dignify it) might appear recently done, but I know it was nearer 200 years old. Tradition says they were dug up from under the floor. A coffin of red sandstone was in the churchyard—many years ago—and I and a friend have gathered half a bushel of loose bones at a time in the churchyard. The Gleaves, of course, are a well-known ancient family in those parts. All this, and the notes of "J. D.," especially in regard to the Castle at Shotwick, show that there is a history worth writing and worth reading of the peninsula of Wallasey, in the hundred of Wirrall. By the way, is it not probable, that the now so-called Horse Channel should be the "Hoose" or Hoylake Channel?

H. G. B. T.

QUERIES.

[3,591.] PICTURE OF A WRECK BY J. M. W. TURNER.—I have an oil painting by Turner (36 inches by 26), with a description written on the back as follows:—"A storm with wreck off Shakspeare's Cliff, Dover. A sketch by J. M. W. Turner illustrating the sinking of the East Indiaman Captain; purchased of the artist by J. Bagnall, Esq., Wolverhampton." I am wishful to ascertain the date and particulars of the wreck, and if it is likely that Turner was an eye-witness of the event; also if Mr. Bagnall was a collector of Turner's work.

ROBERT HAMPSON.

St. John's-street Road, London.

[3,592.] ORIGIN OF CHIEF RENTS.—It would be interesting to know under what circumstances the local custom of creating chief rents payable in perpetuity had its origin. As most readers are aware, the ground rents payable from land in the neighbourhood of London and generally throughout the country are reserved upon leases for lives or for 99 years, at the end of which term the land reverts to the representatives of the original landowner. It is easy to understand how this rule originated in the reluctance of landowners to part with their land

absolutely, and the necessity which lay upon building lessees to accept their terms. But how did the exceptional cases arise, instanced by the local custom prevalent in Manchester and in some other parts of the country? Was it owing here to any liberality or weakness on the part of the landowners, to any sentimental feeling on the part of purchasers in favour of "living on one's own freehold," or to any unusual robustness which led them to decline to accept less than a freehold interest? The latter reason is indicated by the late Master of the Rolls, who a few years ago said: "As we all know, in a very large part of the country—and I wish it were a larger portion—people will not take houses upon any other terms; they will not take leases with provisions for forfeiture or re-entry." It may be that this expresses the feeling which has been fostered by long experience of the freehold system, but does not account for its origin. How far back can this custom be traced in Manchester? I have seen deeds reserving perpetual rents upon grants of freehold land in Manchester dated so far back as 1747. Are there any earlier instances known, and is there any accessible information throwing light on the circumstances which led to the adoption of the custom in Manchester?

W. H.

THE DEATHS IN SHAKSPEARE.—There are in Shakspeare's plays about ninety, taking place either on the stage or immediately behind the scenes. The modes of death are very various. Cold steel (the dagger or the sword) accounts for about two-thirds of the whole; twelve persons die from old age or natural decay, in some cases hastened by the trying circumstances of their lives; seven are beheaded, five die by poison, including the elder Hamlet, whose symptoms are so minutely described by his ghost; two of suffocation, unless, indeed, Desdemona makes a third; two by strangling; one from a fall, one is drowned, three die by snake-bite, and one, Horner, the armourer, is thumped to death by a sandbag.

The report of the Royal Academy for the year states that the number of works sent in for exhibition last spring reached the enormous total of 8,093, an increase of 811 on the number received last year. This fact in itself implies many days of difficult work for the Council first and the Hanging Committee afterwards, and should give some idea of the onerous duties imposed upon the members of the Royal Academy. Of these 8,093 works only 761 were unreservedly accepted by the Council, 2,116 being made doubtful, and 5,216 being entirely rejected. As many as 1,856 works were exhibited altogether this year, and of those 1,656 were sent in by the outsiders, who have not much cause of complaint when they realize that the members of the Academy were represented by a sum total of only 202 works. The sum received for admissions was £21,206.

Saturday, September 6, 1884.

NOTES.

JEWS AND LONGEVITY.

[3,593.] Mr. Lucien Wolf has contributed to the August number of the *Fortnightly Review* an article entitled, What is Judaism? which has attracted considerable attention. In it the writer states that the Jews as a race are superior "physically, mentally, and morally, to the people among whom they dwell;" that "they lose a smaller number of children in their first year, and that they live very much longer." Can any of the readers of Notes and Queries say where evidence can be found for or against these propositions? In Mr. Mulhall's dictionary of statistics there are figures comparing the death-rate amongst Jews with that of Europeans and Christians. These do not confirm the statements of Mr. Wolf. The following figures are taken from the dictionary:—

Age at death.	Ratio of deaths.	
	Jews.	Europeans.
Under twelve months	36.1	28.5
One to 5 years.....	17.6	14.3
Five to 15 years	6.5	6.7
Over 15 years	39.8	50.5
	100	100

According to these figures and contrary to the statement of Mr. Wolf, Jews lose twenty-six per cent more children in the first year of their lives than do Europeans. Nor do the figures in the dictionary support the statement made by Mr. Wolf that Jews live much longer than other people. The following table shows the number of persons out of every thousand born surviving at different ages from twenty to eighty:—

	Jews.		Christians.	
	Prussia.		Prussia.	England.
At 20.....	482	.....	602	699
" 30.....	432	.....	562	650
" 40.....	364	.....	506	587
" 50.....	305	.....	438	506
" 60.....	237	.....	345	398
" 70.....	153	.....	206	253
" 80.....	62	.....	80	108

I am no less surprised at Mr. Mulhall's figures than I was at Mr. Wolf's statements. Mr. Wolf gave no figures in evidence of his statements; Mr. Mulhall gives no authorities for his figures. I should not have expected that the duration of life amongst the Jews varied much from that of the people of the country in which they resided. According to both

Mr. Wolf and Mr. Mulhall, I am wrong, but as these gentlemen differ so widely from each other, I cannot accept the statement of either, unless supported by other evidence.

The importance of accurate information may be imagined from the assertion of Mr. Wolf that the superior condition of the Jews is due to their sanitary regulations, and not least to such as relate to the consumption of animal food. If it be true that the mode of slaughtering animals and the precautions taken against the consumption of diseased meat by Jews saves them from the terrible diseases which decimate yearly the Christian populations, it is high time that we reconsider our practices, and conform to those which are said to have protected a race during centuries from such diseases as have destroyed the peoples amongst whom they dwelt, and which indeed are alleged to be the greatest factor in their perpetuity. But where are the facts which confirm this assertion? It is not in the spirit of mere inquisitiveness that I ask if any of your readers can supply data relating to this question, but in the hope that if the statements of Mr. Wolf are well founded society may derive some benefit from them.

X.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ANTIQUITIES OF THE WALLASEA PENINSULA.

(No. 3,590 and others.)

[3,594.] It was in 1868 that I visited Heswall Church and made the sketches which I still retain. They do not show the stones as coffin lids, or even coffin shaped. Possibly they may have been tapered previous to being used as building material, when it became necessary to cut and square them to fit the courses of masonry. If there had been either mitre or crozier I should have seen and copied them. I have never seen a stone with a duplicate sword; the idea would be absurd. I have seen many with sword and battle-axe. There is one at Eccles, near Manchester, with sword and chalice. Those without the sword have very often a key, shears, bow, hunting-horn, or horse-shoes, probably indicating the calling or profession of the person commemorated. In my notes taken on the spot I say the north side appears to have been lately re-built. I don't think I should make that mistake with a building of 200 years ago. If all these crossed gravestones had been coffin-lids they must have belonged to stone coffins; but where

are the coffins? The latter could not be so easily carried away and disposed of. For one stone coffin found I should say there are twenty slabs with crosses, and there may have been many more, as they are easier to carry off and use as building material. At Rhuddlan, in Wales, I found a small stone with cross, sword, and battle-axe, all complete, and not more than three feet in length; and in the porch of Abergele Church there was, a few years ago, a similar sized stone with cross and sword. These could not have covered a six or seven feet stone coffin.

At Eccles, before-mentioned, I found on the site of St. Katherine's chantry an ancient stone with cross and sword, of which I have a drawing. The chantry was founded in the middle of the fourteenth century by Robert del Booth, who willed his body to be buried before the altar of St. Katherine in Eccles Church; and I am strongly of opinion the stone above-mentioned indicated the resting-place of the said Robert, as it lay with the foot to the east where the altar of St. Katherine stood. When the chantry was re-built, some years ago, I saw the excavation for the foundation, but no stone coffin was found. The cross on the stone was a cross crosslet, and perhaps by this time "H. G. B. T." may have seen an explanation of the term.

J. OWEN.

THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.

(No. 3,584, August 23.)

[3,505.] The subject of the severance of the Chetham Library from the College is one worthy of consideration, and its removal to the Reference Department of the City Free Library would no doubt add to its usefulness, and would be a step which its far-seeing founder, in the present state of affairs, would probably have sanctioned. "It is a well-known fact," says A WORKING MAN, "that funds properly belonging to the Library have been misappropriated to the Hospital, and as a consequence the Library has kept no sort of pace with the progress of the Hospital;" but no one will gainsay the usefulness of the Hospital, nor can we over-estimate the value of the training and education the boys have received there, and which has had no small share in making the Lancashire of to-day, and to which perhaps we owe in some measure the early adoption of the Free Libraries Act in Manchester, and the fine Reference and Branch Lending Libraries resulting therefrom. This is not the first time the usefulness of the Chetham Library has been called into question, but we can imagine the outcry there would have

been from some of the working men in these days of reform and education, if it had so happened that the Library had received the greater benefit to the injury of the Hospital. It is the working class which has benefited by any misappropriation there may have been. When the Library was first formed (about 1657) education amongst the "common people" was not what it is now, and no doubt Humphrey Chetham thought to improve it by the formation of the Library, but it seems very probable that the absence of readers would influence the Governors to some extent in the disposal of the moneys which came to their hands.

A visit to the darkness and solitude of the Library on an ordinary Manchester day does not leave a cheering impression, and the average ten readers per day may be summed up in the words of an ex-official, "They only come here when they cannot find what they want at the Reference Library." It is just a question whether our worthy Chief Librarian and his colleagues would consider the "ten thousand venerable folios and quartos" an unmixed blessing; and indeed there must now be considerably over ten thousand as according to Edwards (*Memoirs of Libraries*, I., p. 651) there are 9,843 folios and quartos in the first three volumes of the Chetham Library Catalogue.

The statement that the "godly English books" which were by Humphrey Chetham's will directed to be chained and placed in the churches of Manchester and Bolton and the chapels of Turton, Walmesley, and Gorton, have to a book disappeared, is not correct. A large proportion of the books placed in Bolton Church and Turton and Gorton Chapels are still in existence. The library placed in the Manchester Collegiate Church, which was by far the largest of the five, has entirely disappeared, and its dispersal reflects great discredit on the then Warden and Fellows. The late Mr. James Crossley rescued a few of the volumes from the bookstalls in Shudehill Market (!), and they were very likely included in some of the lots of "sound divinity" which all the persuasions of the auctioneer could hardly obtain a bid for at the sale at Stocks House in May last.

JOHN CREE.

SIR ROBERT BOOTH, CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH IN IRELAND.

(Nos. 3,527, 3,552, and 3,560.)

[3,596.] Nicholas Mosley, of Ancoats, Esq., who suffered in his estate for his devotion to the cause of Charles I., and afterwards distinguished himself by

his able advocacy of the polity of the Anglican Church, against the Manchester Presbyterians, published, in 1653, a philosophical treatise entitled *Υυχοσσοφία, or Natural & Divine Contemplations of the Passions & Faculties of the Soul of Man*. In three Books (London, Printed for Humphrey Mosley, at the Prince's Arms in St. Paul's Church-yard). There are three dedications. The first, or general dedication, is to "My Honoured Kinsman, Robert Booth, Esquire." The second is to a brother Edward Mosley; and the third is to his "much honoured friend and neighbour, Humphrey Cheetam, Esq." The letter to Booth opens up a neglected view of that individual's character and disposition; he was then twenty-seven years old. The epistle is as follows:—

'Tis not (dear Nephew) Blood, 'tis not consanguinity those several ties and relations of nature, more than a virtuous Mind and Understanding Soul; those Powers and Faculties of your Soul, which I have known from your Childhood, Active and Industrious, and now find crown'd with Habits Intellectual,—These have layd an Obligation upon me of a more sacred civill reverence and respect unto your person; such Homage will I ever owe to the man where these are seated; for though I my self fall very short of such perfection, yet is it not the least of my comfort here that I am a Philosopher, a Lover of Wisdome and learning where ever I find it; my hand and heart is for it, to no petition against it, or the Nurseries thereof; for which cause I have entered my self a Student in the School of Nature and of Christ, there to find out this noble Science of the Soul, What I have met with here and there dispersed, I have endeavoured to re-collect and compile into this Volume. It is not therefore my own; I am no discoverer of New Lights, no teacher of strange Doctrines. I challenge in this Piece nothing but the Composure; the Substance or Matter you may find in the old and beaten path of Faith and Truth, which our Forefathers have trod, and whose Footsteps we may securely follow. To you then (as no Affecter of Novelty, but a Lover of Truth) doe I dedicate these my labours as a pledge of my Love, and part of that Debt I owe you. Accept then of these from him, who shall ever remain, Sir, your obliged Uncle, to serve and honor you,

NICH. MOSLEY.

My good friend, the Rev. W. Reynell, S.T.B., of Dublin, has kindly sent me some important extracts about Sir Robert Booth's family from the parish registers of St. Michan, Dublin. The baptism of a child in 1664, name not recorded, but probably Elizabeth (page 38). The baptism of Anne Booth, dau. to Robert Booth, judge, and Susanna, his wife, June 10, 1666 (p. 47). The baptism of Susanna Booth, April 25, 1667 (p. 97). The baptism of Mary

dau. of Sir Robert Booth, knt., and one of ye justices of his Mai't' Court of Common Bench, and of his wife Madam Susanah, Jany. 27, 1668 (page 1). The burial of Mary, the wife of Robert Booth, gent., in the middle Isle of this church under Lady Temple's seat, 7 Sept., 1660. It is also noted that Isabel, the daughter of Richard Barry, Esq., Councill'r at lawe, was buried, 16 July, 1669, "betwixt the Lady Booth and Lord Lowther's seate." Lady Susanna Booth was thus living on the 16 July, 1669.

Mr. Reynell has also obligingly examined the funeral certificates drawn up by the heralds of the Ulster Office on the death of Sir Robert (vol. ii., 157; vol. iv., 271). The drawings of the pennons and shields exhibit the armorial bearings of the Booth, Potts, and Oxenden families. The judge is styled "The Honr' Sr. Robert Booth of Salfor in Lancashire Kt Lord Chiefe Iustice of his Ma'tys Court of Comon Pleas in Ireland on of his Ma'tys most Honr' Privy Council." The certificate proceeds: "He was first Married to Mary Daug. and heire of Spencer Potts of Chalgrove in the county of Bedford Esqr. and afterwards to Susanna Daug. of Sr. Hend: Oxenden of Denn [*Deane* in the duplicate] in East Kent Kt." The dates of death and burial are left blank. It states that he had issue, but no particulars are given.

The coat of Booth depicted on the certificate is: *Argent*, three boars' heads couped *sable*. Upon an escutcheon of pretence are the arms of Potts, *Azure* two bars *or*, over all a bend of the last. These arms in another drawing are impaled with the bearings of Oxenden, *Ar.* a chevron *gules* between three oxen *sable*.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[3,597.] SCIENCE IN THE BIBLE.—I have heard it stated that the Bible asserts that the earth is round, hangs in space, and that air has weight. Can any of your readers give me the passages?

E. D.

TRICYCLING BY ELECTRICITY.—Professors Ayrton and Perry have brought out their electric tricycle. Its driving-wheel is forty-four inches, the electro-motor is placed beneath the seat, and the battery acts directly upon its cogged spur wheel. The battery is equal to two horse-power, and can be regulated with the utmost nicety.

Saturday, September 13, 1884.

NOTES.

ROYAL POSSESSIONS IN MANCHESTER A.D. 1615.

[3,598.] From the original draft of an old deed (*temp.* James II. or William and Mary), in which the exact date does not appear, I learn that King James I., "by his highnesses Letters patents under the great Seale of England and the severall seales of his County pallatine and Dutchie of Lancaster bearing date att Westminster on or about the 18th day of Aprill in the 13th yeare of his said Highnesses reigne of England and of Scotland the 48th, did give and grant (amongst other things)" the Messuage, etc. which, at the date of the first-mentioned deed, was described as stated at the foot of this note, "to one ffrancis Morrice, of London, Esquire, and Robert Smith, of the same, gent., theyre heires and Assignes, whose estate in the premisses was by them the said ff. Morrice and R. Smith conveyed and assured to Oswald Mosley, of the Ancoates, and Wm. Sparke, of Manchester, gent., theyre heires and Assignes, and by them the said O. Mosley and W. Sparke, amongst other things, conveyed to one ffrancis Mosley, late of Manchester aforesaid, gent., his heires and Assignes, and by him conveyed to" one John Jackson, then late of Manchester. The grantors and vendors named in the draft deed in question were "John Kershaw, of the citty of London [blank left for his occupation or calling], sonn and Heire of Robert Kershaw, late of Rochdale . . . Mercer, deceased, and Anne his wife (the which said Anne was Daughter and Heire" of the John Jackson mentioned above "and of Jane his Wife) and Margaret, Wife of the said John Kershaw;" and the grantee and purchaser was Abraham Taylor of Manchester, "Querister;" his purchase money being £40, and he being expressed to hold the purchased property "of our Sovereigne Lord the King his heires and successors as of his Highnesses Mannor of *Endeffield* [Enfield, a well-known royal demesne and chase, and a favourite resort of James I.] in the County of Middlesex by fflealty onely in free and common Socage and not in capite nor by Knights service."

The property conveyed by this deed consisted of a "Messuage, Burgage, Tenement, half bay [pen or special enclosure] of Building, Garden" [a portion of the draft is missing] "with theyre and every of theyre Appurtenances situate lyeing

and being in Manchester aforesaid in or neare a certaine street or place there commonly called or knowne by the name of the *Toad Lane* and which were heretofore in the tenure or occupation of the aforesaid John Jackson . . . and now or late in the tenure or occupation of one Edward Asheton . . ." Most readers of this note will know that what the Corporation-street and other street improvements have left of *Toad Lane* is now represented by Todd-street.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FEFNICUTE.

No. 3,588, August 23.)

[3,599.] I have never heard the word "fefnicate" made use of here (Walsden), but my father says that in his younger days he frequently heard persons spoken of as "feflicutes." Though never quite understanding the meaning of the term, he thought it was a derogatory expression. Most likely "fefnicate" and "feflicute" are but forms of a conjunction of the old word "feft" and "acute." To feft is to persuade and over-persuade a person to do some action to his own harm and your advantage. For instance, to buy something from him that the buyer has really no need for. A "fefnicate," then, is a person with an oily tongue, who is sharp, penetrating, acute in the arts of deception, and hypocritical. He will tell you that his goods are the best to be had anywhere, and that he is selling far below cost price. Gauged by this standard, fefnicates are perhaps as common as blackberries.

One or two aged persons tell me that the ring of the word "fefnicate" sounds familiar to them, but that if they ever knew what it meant they must have long since forgotten. From inquiries I have made it is evident to me that "fefnicate," or a form of it, was once included in our folk-speech, but that it has now gone to the bourne from which travelling words sometimes return.

JOSEPH CROWTHER.

Walsden.

SCIENCE IN THE BIBLE.

(Query No. 3,597, September 6.)

[3,600.] I think the following references are answers to "E. D.'s" questions:—

That the earth is round.....Isaiah 40-22
Hangs in spaceJob 26-7
Air has weight.....Job 28-25

MOSS SIDE.

* * *

The Prayer Book version of Psalm 98, v. 8, says: "The round world and they that dwell therein." The Bible says, "the world" only. Job, c. 26 v. 7, says: "He hangeth the earth upon nothing;" and chap. 28 v. 25 of the same book says: "To make weight for the winds." H. G. B.-T.

* * *

I have in my possession a Bible which has evidently seen much service in the hands of a member of some religious sect. It contains many notes and markings. Many verses (no doubt bearing on some point of doctrine) are coloured—some green, others red, and others blue. Amongst the notes I find:—The earth a globe—Is. xl. 22. Proverbs viii. 27: "It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth." "When he set a compass (or circle) upon the face of the depth." The earth in space: Job xxvi. 7—"He hangeth the earth upon nothing." Air has weight: Job xxviii. 25—"To make the weight for the winds." There has also been a reference to electricity, but I cannot decipher it. F. LEARY.

Clock Alley.

* * *

I believe your correspondent's question fairly represents a vague idea that seems floating in the public mind. It is partly true. The ancient Hebrew appears to have regarded the earth, not as a sphere, but as a large disc. Upon this the heavens were spread as a tent (Is. xl. 22); they are described as resting upon pillars, i.e., mountains (Job xxvi. 11); these are on the edges of the earth which the heavens cover like an inverted cup (Job xxii. 14). The disc of the earth too was supported on pillars (Job ix. 6). These pillars rested on solid foundations (Ps. civ. 5 and 6); none could tell where these were (Job xxxviii. 6). God himself is said to have supported the pillars of the earth (Ps. lxxv. 3). Lastly, this disc borne up by pillars, fixt on solid foundations, is said to be suspended in space (Job xxvi. 7). The inspired writers were not mere machines of the spirit; plenty of scope was left for their own individuality, there was nothing to prevent them from embodying popular and mythic conceptions of the universe in their writings; and though they were inspired in the fullest sense of the term, their inspiration did not set its seal to those conceptions as absolutely true. The Bible does not pretend to be a scientific book, does not pretend to correct popular ideas as those mentioned above, and thus is in no way opposed to science. AGAPE.

Saturday, September 20, 1884.

NOTES.

LONGEVITY OF THE JEWS.

[3,601.] Owing to what I have read and heard of the Jews I should think it probable that their occasional "fasts" have something to do with their long life; as a "fast" produces clearer thought, an instinctive love of cleanliness, and a renewed desire for life, with also a keener love for the simple pleasures of life. CHESTER.

"DON'T BOTHER ME!"

[3,602.] One of the most common expressions in every day life, and one which is generally used by all classes, is the expression "Don't bother me!" and the origin of the word "bother" has so frequently bothered me that I have spent some time in tracing its etymology. I was surprised to discover that, like a number of other words in our language, "bother" is a corruption of two words, viz., "both ears"; the original meaning of the word being, "Do not annoy me at both ears"—*id est*, don't deafen me with your noise. SCIO.

"TO DUN."

[3,603.] The derivation of the phrase "to dun," *id est* to clamour for a debt, is generally understood to be obtained from the Saxon word *dunan*, to din or clamour; but the term really was never in general use till the time of Joe Dun, a famous bailiff of Lincoln, who flourished in the reign of Henry VII., and who acquired quite a notoriety for his easy and sure method of collecting "bad" debts. Thus when any one was slow in paying up the creditor invariably got the advice "Dun him," or, in other words, "send Dun after him." C. A. B.

Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FEFNICUTE.

(Nos. 3,583 and 3,599.)

[3,604.] In the *City News* of last Saturday one of your correspondents speaks of the word *fefnicate* as if it were obsolete. It is by no means so. My mother, who speaks and reads the dialect better than most people, has frequently used the word in my hearing as designating a person (generally a child) who uses

diplomatic and flattering phrases to gain some end. I have often thought it a creation of her own, and am pleased to find it is so well known? May I add a perhaps foolish postscript to my letter. The vocabulary of the dialect has been admirably collected and edited by Mr. Milner and Mr. Nodal. Can nothing be done for its grammar? It would be a very interesting thing to record the many curious inversions of phrase and the primitive syntax which characterizes a great deal of our local speech. A comparative grammar of English dialects would, I think, be a very valuable work in elucidating their history and affiliation. Perhaps the work has been done and I am merely exposing my ignorance.

HENRY H. HOWORTH.

Higher Bentcliffe, Eccles.

THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.

(Nos. 3,291, 3,292, 3,584, and 3,595.)

[3,605.] I fail to see what Mr. CREE is driving at. He admits that the removal of the above Library to "the Reference Department of the City Free Library would no doubt add to its usefulness," and then he goes on to throw cold water on the idea. "This is not the first time the usefulness of the Chetham Library has been called in question, but we can imagine the outcry there would have been if it had so happened the Library had received the greater benefit to the injury of the Hospital." And quite right, too, in my opinion. "It is the working class which has benefited by any misappropriation there may have been." Fortunately for the reputation of the feofees, the revenues of the Hospital are in a flourishing condition, but because one has gained to the injury of the other, does Mr. CREE consider this a sufficient justification for the misappropriation? Who was it that Humphrey Chetham meant to benefit if not the working class? But will Mr. CREE tell us of what use the Library is to them under existing circumstances? "They only come here when they cannot find what they want at the Reference Library." Can anyone feel surprised at the "absence of readers" in an antiquated library that has kept no sort of pace with the times? How different it might have been had the Library been looked after in as careful a manner as the College. But could there be a greater argument for removal? Is it worth while to pay the expenses of a separate establishment for the purpose of bringing a few readers from our chief Library,

when the removal of these books would not only save their valuable time, but give them a better opportunity of comparing the works with those of a more recent date?

"It is just a question," says Mr. CREE, "whether our worthy Chief Librarian and his colleagues would consider the 10,000 venerable folios and quartos an unmixed blessing." It is not a question of what "our worthy Chief Librarian and his colleagues" think; it is a question of the usefulness of the Library and the convenience of the public for whom it was intended; and I believe that our worthy Chief Librarian would look more to the convenience of those whom he serves so faithfully, and to the reputation of the Library over which he presides, than to any extra work the removal might cause.

I am pleased to hear that some of the works placed in the Bolton and Turton Chapels are still in existence; yet it is sad to find, according to evidence given before the Libraries Committee of 1849, that one hundred and fifty volumes had disappeared from the Library itself.

"No one will gainsay the usefulness of the Hospital." So far from doing this, I distinctly stated that the removal of the Library would not only increase its usefulness, but would also enable the feofees to enlarge the Hospital, and give them the means of increasing the number of boys to be maintained and educated, and of improving the character of the education afforded, for can anyone doubt that the gratitude of the community would refuse to undertake the maintenance of Humphrey Chetham's Library; and the same step which would free this starving Library from the obstructions which have impeded its growth and diminished its usefulness would give greater efficiency to his thriving school. To talk of the usefulness of the Chetham Library of to-day is to talk nonsense. That it can look back upon a career of usefulness many have borne grateful testimony; but this usefulness is sinking into decrepitude and decay year by year. Combine the two Libraries, and assuredly the vitality of the one will be found to invigorate and fructify the accumulated stores of the other. United with the Hospital, the vigour of the one has been supported by the exhaustion of the other. Separate both would thrive, and become the channels of an amount of education and intellectual advantage to this city, which otherwise we shall have long to wait for.

A WORKING MAN.

QUERIES.

[3,606.] COLOURED BOTTLES IN DRUGGISTS' WINDOWS.—What is the origin of the custom of having large decanters that give coloured lights, which are to be seen in almost every druggist's shop?

E. T.

[3,607.] HELTER-SKELTER.—What is the derivation of the phrase "helter-skelter." I cannot find it in any dictionary which I have at hand. The universal signification seems to be in a hurry without any order.

J. S. B.

Northwich.

[3,608.] PLAYS, WHEN FIRST ACTED: CENSORSHIP OF PLAYS.—Will any reader of Notes and Queries kindly supply replies to the following questions:—1. In what year and place in England were plays first acted? 2. What company received the first patent? And 3. When were plays first subjected to censorship?

DRAMATICUS.

Hyde, September.

[3,609.] THE POOR MAN'S GUARDIAN.—I have been looking through the list of Manchester periodicals appearing in your Notes and Queries, but can find nothing concerning the *Poor Man's Guardian*. As I believe this was a paper that played a conspicuous part in the struggle of the press for freedom, perhaps some of your readers could give some information respecting it.

J. E.

[3,610.] FAULTY FLANNEL.—The preamble of an Act of Parliament passed in 1601 runs to the following effect:—Whereas the good and godly purposes of sundry statutes heretofore ordained for the true making of woollen cloth are frustrated by stretching, want of weight, flocks, *sollace*, chalk, flour, deceitful things, subtle sleights, untruths, so as the same cloth being put in water is found to shrink, be *rewey*, *pursey*, *squally*, cockled, *bandy*, light, and notably faulty, to the great dislike of foreign princes, and to the hindrance and loss of the buyer and wearer: For redress hereof be it enacted, &c. By a subsequent Act (49 Geo. III., cap., 109) passed to repeal the afore-mentioned, because it "operated against the principles of trade," we learn that the faults complained of were common amongst the manufactures of Lancashire and Yorkshire, and

I desire to know whether the words which I have italicised are still in use; and, if they are not, what are their modern equivalents, and the particular faults to which they refer?

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

[3,611.] SKELETONS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. The possession of skeletons by medical students of the old school caused no surprise, as body-snatching was a general practice and the source of supply well known. But now that stealing bodies from the graves is a thing of the past one would imagine that the possession of a human skeleton would be an expensive rarity. I was somewhat surprised, however, when a circular was placed in my hand which gave a full list of human skeletons and bones, with prices and all particulars. The list emanates from a firm of standing in the metropolis, and is got up in the ordinary business-like way, just as lists of groceries or wines are made out. Now I am not anxious to be thought an alarmist, but as this firm has a continual "stock on hand," one is naturally inclined to ask whence are all these human skeletons obtained? One might perhaps attribute the quantity of male skeletons to the fruitful stock afforded by a war; but as there are as many "lines" of female specialities we must look to some other source for the supply. It is perhaps comforting to know that however worthless we may be when living, our bones are, if complete, at least worth £4. 15s. to £8. 10s., and that our bare skull is valued at 10s. to £1. 15s. The latter price is only obtained for "superior" skulls; but whether the superiority consists in the quality of the bone or the mental capacity which it embodied when animated the catalogue sayeth not. A hand reaches the price of 4s. 6d. to 7s. 6d., and a foot fetches from 4s. 6d. to 8s., and each and every bone in the body has its trade value. When, therefore, one person breaks another one's bones the damage does not extend to the immediate but also to the ultimate depreciation of the market value. Will any reader, "learned in the law," kindly state whether the sale of human skeletons is permitted by the law, and will anyone appease my dire forebodings of the ultimate fate of my osteological framework by telling me from what source these dealers—for there must be more than one—in "new and second-hand" skeletons and bones obtain their supply?

BONIPARTE.

Saturday, September 27, 1884.

NOTES.

LATHOM HOUSE AND THE BOOTLE FAMILY.

[3,612.] In the *Leaguer of Lathom*, by Harrison Ainsworth, mention is frequently made of a Captain Bootle, who, when the garrison of Lathom House was about to be besieged in 1644, was found to be a traitor. When his treachery was discovered he managed to escape.

Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, M.P. for Chester, married Mary, daughter and sole heir of Robert Bootle, Esquire, of Lathom House, and assumed the surname of Bootle. Of this marriage was Edward, who resumed the surname of Wilbraham, becoming Edward Bootle-Wilbraham, which is the present surname of the family. He was created Lord Skelmersdale in 1828, and his son was advanced in the peerage a few years ago by the title of Earl of Lathom.

It would be interesting to know (1) How the property was acquired by the Bootle family. (2) What connection had the traitor Captain Bootle with the Bootles who subsequently owned Lathom House. To me it appears singular that the Stanleys should allow (if they could help it) the historical building to become alienated from their family.

C. DAGGATT.

AN OLD DEANS GATE DEED.

[3,613.] I have before me the original draft of a deed of Release, dated the 17th November, 1698, the parties to which are John Leech, of Manchester, gent. ("sonn and heire of Sarah Gartside, late of Manchester aforesaid, widow, by her former husband ——— Leech," of the first part; Joseph Clegg, of Newton (in the parish of Manchester), chapman, and Robert Gartside, of Prestwich, yeoman (executors of the last will and testament of the said Sarah Gartside), of the second part; and the purchaser, Daniel Sandford, of the City of London [blank left for occupation], of the third part; and in which the following interesting recital is contained, "Whereas Ellen Sandford, late of Nutthurst, in the county of Lancaster, widow, deceased, by Lease and Release dated the 25th and 26th November, 1688, or otherwise, did grant and convey to the said Sarah Gartside and her heires all those the severall Closes and parcells of Land lying in Manchester aforesaid in and neare the end of a streete or place there called the *Deanesgate* and called or knowne by the severall names of the *Garden-*

feild, the over *Sowcehills*, and the *Dole*, all of them then in the possession of one Thomas Mercer."

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BOTHER.

(Note No. 3,602, September 20.)

[3,614.] In the Etymological Dictionary by Chambers it is stated that "bother" is a corruption of the old word "pothor," to tease or annoy.

A. E. S.

Didsbury.

* * *

The word "bother" is undoubtedly a perplexity to the philologists, but I doubt whether they will be helped by Scio's suggestion that it is a corruption of "both ears." Professor Skeat in his recent Etymological Dictionary says there is no proof that the word is of any great antiquity in English, and the earliest use of it which he has found is in Dean Swift's *Strephon and Flavia*: "my head you so bother." Rejecting Mr. Hensleigh Wedgwood's connection of the word with the Dutch "bulderen," to rage, Professor Skeat is inclined to favour Mr. Garnett's solution tracing it to the Irish or Gaelic "buaidhirt," trouble, affliction; and says Swift might easily have adopted the word from the Irish.

ELTON.

THE POOR MAN'S GUARDIAN.

(Query No. 3,609, September 20.)

[3,615.] Bound up with *Bronterre's National Reformer* "in Government, Law, Property, Religion, and Morals," of the date of January, 1835, and John Bell's *New Political Register* of the same year, I find several numbers of *The Poor Man's Guardian*, purchased of Mr. Mann, of Leeds, and for selling which he suffered imprisonment in York Castle. I enclose you the title of No. 220, for August 22, 1835, which is worth reprinting exactly as it stands:—

THE POOR MAN'S GUARDIAN,

A WEEKLY PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

This Paper (after sustaining a Government persecution of three years and a half duration, in which upwards of 500 persons were unjustly imprisoned, and cruelly treated for vending it) was, on the Trial of an Ex-Officio Information filed by His Majesty's Attorney General against Henry Hetherington, in the Court of Exchequer, before Lord Lyndhurst and a Special Jury, declared to be a strictly Legal Publication.

Printed and Published by H. Hetherington, Savoy-street, Strand.

I knew Hetherington, Lovett, and O'Brien well; and to no man of his time is this generation more indebted than to Henry Hetherington, the now forgotten and uncrowned hero. He used strong language, as you will see from the back of the scrap cut out, but that was needful to overcome the cold-blooded Whiggism and rampant Toryism of that day. The men who came later, and of higher rank, have won the historical laurels, but Hetherington was the genuine martyr and hero.

F. R. LEES.

Meanwood Lodge, Leeds.

THE CHETHAM LIBRARY.

(No. 3,606 and others.)

[3,616.] A few facts relative to the Chetham Library and Hospital may perhaps now not be out of place. Humphrey Chetham left two distinct and separate bequests for the endowment and maintenance of a Library of Godly Books, and a Hospital, the entire range of buildings called "The Great House in Manchester," becoming the sole property of the Hospital. The accounts (revenue and expenditure) of each foundation have always and still are kept quite apart. The Hospital estate has always been and still is more than sufficient to support it, plenty and to spare, and instead of taking from the Library, has for many years back remitted annual payments of money which the Library was bound to pay to it. The Library has going on steadily increasing in numbers and in value, the late librarian, Mr. Thomas Jones, giving half his life even to its finish, in fostering the place, and from about 16,000 volumes which he found there on entering on his duties he left upwards of 30,000, rich in ancient, modern, and current literature. During the last twelve years five additional rooms which form the ground range of the north corridor have been handed over to the Library and filled with books. Since Mr. Jones's death in 1876 the late James Crossley gratuitously filled his place, and so saved a librarian's salary and cost of living.

JAMES BURY.

* * *

A WORKING MAN seems to have adopted Mr. Edward Edwards's *Memoirs of Libraries* as his shibboleth, his arguments and language alike being taken from that work. No doubt it contains much information not to be found elsewhere, and I have no wish to impugn the accuracy of its statements. Without attempting to justify the feoffees in their past neglect of the Library, I say they have a valu-

able set-off in the increased number of boys that have been trained and educated in the Hospital. Whether or not this should go on in the future is another question.

Humphrey Chetham intended to benefit other people besides the working class. The clause in his will which provided for the Library, stated that it was "for the use of scholars and others well affected." The Church Libraries were for the benefit of the "common people." My expression "absence of readers" referred to the early years of the Library.

I gather from A WORKING MAN's remarks that he would hand over the Library to the Corporation, and leave the moneys and estates, which were originally set apart for its maintenance, in the hands of the feoffees, for the training and education of the boys; but if this were done would he not be a consenting party to a greater misappropriation than ever?

The question of providing space for the ever-increasing number of books, is one that now exercises the minds of librarians, and will do so still more in the future. It was in this sense that I doubted whether the "ten thousand venerable folios and quartos" would be an unmixed blessing to the City Librarian and his colleagues, especially considering that one of the strongest departments of the Chetham Library is Theology. Moreover, the City Libraries are maintained by a public rate, which is limited in amount by Act of Parliament, and the rebinding and repairing of the "torn and rotting covers" of the Chetham books, would be a serious item to come out of a sum already small enough for its purposes.

The treasures contained in the 30,000 volumes more or less of the Chetham Library are varied and many, and deserve to be far better known than is possible under existing arrangements. The Library at present is an unknown land to the people of Manchester—a library in name but nothing more. It would seem, however, from the report of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society's meeting, in the *City News* of the 20th inst., that the feoffees are awakening to a sense of the altered times in which we live, and seem, instead of parting with the Library to be disposed to adapt it to the requirements of to-day. Mr. H. H. Howorth, one of the feoffees, as chairman of the meeting, in the course of his remarks, regretted that the present arrangements were such as to preclude many students who

would otherwise make use of the Library from doing so. He suggested that the Library should be lighted by gas, and opened in the evenings, and that it should be made more useful and in every way a student's library. If these suggestions of Mr. Howorth are carried out, they will remove many of the objections which at present bar the way to the increased usefulness of the Library, and will still further show that the feoffees are, to use Mr. Howorth's words, the trustees of the people of Manchester, and that it is their desire to make the Library as useful as possible.

Mr. Edwards, in his *Memours of Libraries*, carries the account of the Chetham Library down to 1854, and in that year the entries in the catalogue were not more than 11,000, but the issue of Volume VI. of the catalogue last year carries the total number of entries to 28,047, thus showing that the Library has more than doubled itself during the last thirty years, and though no doubt a large proportion are donations, still the fact speaks for itself.

JOHN CREE.

DRUGGISTS' COLOURED BOTTLES.

(Query No. 3,606, September 20.)

[3,617.] On this subject a very pleasing and instructive story, *The Purple Jar*, was written by Miss Edgeworth, and is to be had in Manchester for a small sum.

A. E. S.

Didsbury.

SKELTONS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

(Query No. 3,611, September 20.)

[3,618.] I was sorry your correspondent BONIPARTE was so scared by seeing an advertisement of a firm offering skeletons for sale. These advertisements are not at all uncommon; if your correspondent will examine this week's *Lancet* he will see at least a dozen such advertisements. It may serve to alleviate your correspondent's anxiety if I assure him that the bones are not obtained from the osseous framework of the natives of this favoured land, but from those of the less fortunate inhabitants of foreign climes, negroes and others. The sale of the skeletons of natives is, I think, forbidden by English law.

MEDICUS.

HELTHER SKELTER.

(Query No. 3,607, September 20.)

[3,619.] In Dr. Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable the following explanation is given:—

Helter-skelter—Higgledy-piggledy, in hurry and confusion. The Latin "hilariter-celeriter" come toler-

ably near the meaning of post-haste, as Shakspeare uses the expression (2 Henry iv., v. 3):—

Sir John, I am thy Pistol and thy friend,
And helter-skelter have I rode to thee,
And tidings do I bring.

The archaic word *helt*, "poured out," is doubtless the same as *helter*; and probably *skelter* is a variation of the same.

T. T. HAYES.

Leigh.

QUERIES.

[3,620.] REVOLVING CARDING ENGINES.—Whether for wool or cotton were revolving carding engines first used? Who invented them?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[3,621.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Who is the author of these lines?—

Cold winter is come with his cold chilly breath,
And the leaves are all fallen from the trees;
All nature seems touched by the finger of death,
And the streams are beginning to freeze.

A. E. S.

[3,622.] THE PROSPECT FROM WORSLEY AND SWINTON.—I believe it would interest many of your readers if we could be furnished with accurate particulars of the prospects from the high ground at Swinton and Worsley. I am told that the top of the Museum in Peel Park is a good point for observation; if this is the case, probably Mr. John Plant, whose accuracy in such matters is well known, could favour us with the information.

S. E. HAWORTH.

Worsley Road, Swinton.

[3,623.] ANCIENT DWELLINGS IN CONWAY VALLEY. Can you or any of the widely-spread readers of the *City News* give me any information, or tell me where information may be obtained, concerning the remains of the ancient dwellings in the Dolgarrog Wood, about two miles from Trefriw, on the road to Conway? To a few people hereabouts these old habitations are well known, but I do not think much is known about them outside the Conway Valley. They are very rude, evidently very old, and, to say the least, they are remains of strange habitations of a people of whom, I believe, we know little.

JAMES NIELD.

Talybont.

STRANGE DISCOVERY OF PICTURES, BY TURNER.—An Exeter hairdresser has discovered three works of J. W. M. Turner. They represent views of the interior of Exeter Cathedral, and are said to have been stowed away for nearly fifty years as lumber. Mr. Ruskin has seen the pictures, and has not the least doubt of their genuineness.

Saturday, October 4, 1884.

NOTES.

AN OLD ST. MARY'S-GATE DEED.

[3,624.] As a suitable companion to my note of last week on "An old Deansgate Deed," I now submit a few extracts from the original draft of a deed of Release dated about 1690—the actual date does not appear on the draft—and made between John Moxon the elder, of Manchester, gent., of the one part, and John Moxon, gent. (who, it would appear, was also of Manchester), "second son to the aforesaid John Moxon the elder," of the other part. In consideration of the "naturall love and affection which hee hath and beareth unto the said John Moxon, his said son," and for the latter's "better advancement, preferment and way of liveing," the elder Moxon granted, in fee simple, by the deed in question, "All that Messuage, Burgage, and Tenement, with the Appurtenances, situate, standing, and being in Manchester aforesaid, in or neare unto a certaine streete or place, there called the *St. Mary-Gate*, now or late or heretofore in the tenure, holding or occupation of William Buttler, Richard Hunt, Innkeeper, Thomas Millington and William Cooke, Innkeeper; together with all . . . shoppes, sellers, warehouses, stables, . . . entries, courts [here follows a series of descriptive general words], to the said Messuage, Burgage, or Tenement . . . belonging." The following two memoranda are written in the margin; but there is nothing to show to which, if any, part of the deed they relate:—"Randall Williamson, Robert Chapman, Mary Butler, — Brooke," may be the names of former tenants of the property (a portion, at least, of which was, I gather incidentally, once in the actual occupation of the elder Moxon): "Rentcharge now payable to Elizabeth, Widow and Relict of John Shelton deceased . . . chargeable upon the whole premises or part thereof."

Most readers of this note need not the reminder that *St. Mary's-Gate*, unlike *St. Mary's-street*, does not derive its name from the neighbouring church known as "St. Mary's," but from the ancient mother church, now the Cathedral.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE DRAMA IN ENGLAND.

(Query No. 3,603, September 20.)

[3,625.] It was in Clerkenwell that the first play was acted in the year 1397. Plays were first submitted to censorship in the year 1737. James Burbage's company was the first to receive a patent in 1574. Burbage's company were styled the "Servants of the Earl of Leicester." F. M. H.

* * *

The Chester Mysteries, or Whitsun Plays, were performed in 1268. The Moralities succeeded, and then historical dramas. *Ferrex and Porrex*, our first regular tragedy, was acted before Elizabeth in the year 1561. Bishop Still's *Gummer Gurton's Needle* was the first comedy; it was performed in the year 1575, at Christ Church, Cambridge.

MOSELEY-STREET EDGELEY.

FAULTY CLOTH AND FLANNEL.

(Query No. 3,610, September 20.)

[3,626.] I fear it is not possible to give a satisfactory answer to this query. Bosworth gives: A.S. Sol = soil, filth, mire; and it may be conjectured that of this word would be easily coined "sollace," which probably meant clay. In my time I have heard of both China-clay (= pulverized felspar) and salt being put into flannel pieces to add to their weight. I do not know that the word "sollace" is now anywhere in use; nor, indeed, "rewy," "pursey," "squally," or "bandy." The equivalents of these four latter words used technically would, I think, now be "rowy," "puckered," "uneven," and "roaded," that is, unevenly shaded. To be "cockled" is a most inconvenient fault in flannel and in cloth, and may arise from the warp being irregularly wefted—that is, having sometimes or alternately, more and then fewer picks in an inch than there ought to be; or, as is oftenest the case, by mixing together weft bobbins of different qualities of wool.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

FEFNICUTE.

(Nos. 3,583, 3,599, and 3,604.)

[3,627.] Not Fefnicute but Fefmecute—spelt with the m, not n—at least this is how we have the word in Oldham, which town, besides other fame, has the honour of preserving to us many of these old-world words. "Feffing" or "faffing" are common words among old people even in my recollection.

Another word. Who knows what "warth" or "warthe" means? My dear old friend, the late John Higson, did not know the word when he came to live at Lees, but I suppose it must be in his glossary, published or unpublished, I don't know which. At least I rescued this word from perdition, as I thought, by sending it on to him, and I should say it is among his collection of folk lore somewhere. The word is used in such a connection as the following:—Question: "Tom, has sin th' back spittle? Answer: "Well, it wair here a minute sin, but aw dunno what's warthe on't"—that is to say, "what has become of it." This was a common word in Oldham some years ago. I daresay I know many other curious words, which, like Mr. Howorth, I have learned from my mother.

SAMUEL ANDREW.

Hey, Lees.

REVOLVING CARDING ENGINES.

(Query No. 3,620, September 27.)

[3,628.] Revolving cards appear to have been invented by Daniel Bourn, of Leominster, who took out a patent for his apparatus in May, 1748. In his specification it is called "A machine for carding wool or cotton either by hand or water." Lewis Paul, of Birmingham, patented a revolving card in the same year, seven months later than Bourn's patent. There were two machines included in the specification, the most important being a cylinder clothed with cards that revolved close to a concave covering, also clothed with cards fixed under its lower half. The cotton was introduced between the two, and, when carded sufficiently, was removed in a fleece by hand with a stick furnished with needles in the manner of a comb.

Paul's card underwent different improvements, but it was not until 1773, or about that time, that Arkwright gave it the form still in use. The principle of revolving cards was then first brought out by Bourn, and it was applied indifferently to wool or cotton. The carding engine, fed at the back by a lap covered with moveable flats, and having the cotton removed in a continuous fleece from a doffer at the front by a comb and cranks, was invented by Arkwright, and was used first for cotton. R. H. A.

QUERIES.

[3,629.] SAMUEL EATON, THE INDEPENDENT TEACHER AT DUKINFIELD.—Was there any family connection between this divine and Theophilus

Eaton, the first governor of New Haven; and if so, what was its nature? J. C.

[3,630.] LORD LYTTON AND TENNYSON.—I have a copy of Lord Lytton's *New Timon*, dated 1875, in which I fail to find the lines in which Tennyson is spoken of as "Schoolmiss Alfred," and his poetry described as—

A jingling medley of purloined conceits,
Out-babying Wordsworth and out-glittering Keats.

Can you say whether or not it has been deleted in editions since the first in 1845?

ROBERT TAYLOR.

Prestwich.

[Lord Lytton omitted the lines in the third edition of the *New Timon*. Tennyson replied to the satire in *Punch* (vol. x., 1846, page 103) in a poem of eleven stanzas, entitled "The New Timon and the Poets," and amongst other things called Lytton—

The padded man that wears the stays.

These verses have never been republished in any edition of Tennyson's works.—ED.]

THE ROMANS IN STOCKPORT.—The Surtees Society have just published the second volume of the *Family Memoirs of the Rev. William Stukeley*. Under the head of Cheshire, and date of January, 1750-51, we have this extract from a diary:—"Mr. Peel, officer of excise, sent me a coin of Honorius, taken up on removal of some rubbish called the castle at Stockport, on the Mersey, in Cheshire. Reverse, a garland, vot." Mr. Thompson Watkin remarks in the *Academy* that this will be welcome news to antiquaries, for, although Roman roads meet at Stockport, and it has long been thought there must have been a small post there, no remains have been recorded with the exception of a tradition, which can be traced to no reliable source, that a tessellated pavement was found some eighty years since.

MR. CROSSLEY AS A POETICAL CRITIC.—The Wigan Free Library obtained at the sale of the late James Crossley's library a copy of the elder David Holt's *Miscellaneous Extracts*, Manchester, 1839, and on a fly-leaf is the following criticism in Mr. Crossley's handwriting:—

What a terrible Dolt you must be, David Holt,
To fancy that extracts like these,
Old scraps out of season and rhymes without reason,
Can your readers enlighten or please.

In carving a goose you were always of use,
And in helping at dinner most able;
But a mental repast is a Barmecide's fast
If you take the head of the table.

A note adds that Mr. Holt "was the best carver of a goose in Manchester. He could do it with a spoon."

Saturday, October 11, 1884.

NOTES.

SHOULD AND WOULD.

[3,631.] A person now deceased, who if living would be about seventy years of age, told me he used to go to school to an old man who wove in a handloom at Lower Darwen. The preceptor made the lads stand in a row on a form to read; "and," said my informant, "he used to make us say 'wowl'd' and 'showld;,' he'd have none of your 'woods' and 'shoods.' Compare this with Chaucer, in the *Coke's Tale of Gamelyn*:—

They lyveden togidere whil that Crist *wold*,
And sithin was Gamelyn graven under moolde.

CALCAR.

ACCURACY IN QUOTATION.

[3,632.] Speaking at Hanley on Tuesday, the 7th instant, on the Franchise question, Mr. Chamberlain is reported in the *Times*, *Daily News*, and other newspapers to have said:—"I must come to the conclusion that

The man convinced against his will
Is of the same opinion still."

Without entering into the question whether a man can still be of the same opinion after he has been "convinced" against his will, or without troubling the right honourable gentleman to state if he was correctly reported, I will assume that the couplet from Samuel Butler's *Hudibras* was intended, and as this is so frequently misquoted in a similar manner, it may not be out of place to supply the correct version, which is—

He that complies against his will
Is of his own opinion still.

W. C. F.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LORD LYTON AND TENNYSON.

(Query No. 3,630, October 4.)

[3,633.] In your reply to this query you state that Tennyson's poem, the "New Timon and the Poets," has never been republished in any edition of Tennyson's works. This is not quite correct. I have an American edition of Tennyson (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1873) which contains the poem in a complete form, the whole of the eleven verses being given.

GEORGE W. LOCKWOOD.

Withington.

[We meant, of course, any edition sanctioned by Tennyson himself. The American reprinted collections include many pieces which the Laureate has omitted from his several editions. In the instance of the "New Timon and the Poets," the omission by Tennyson is significant. He did not wish to perpetuate the memory of an angry personal controversy.—EDITOR.]

SCIENCE IN THE BIBLE.

(Nos. 3,597 and 3,600.)

[3,634.] I would respectfully say to the proposer of this query, as One of old said to the Jews, "Search the Scriptures." But how few there are who do this. When I think of the commendable, great, and continuous efforts that are made to circulate the Bible; of the vast number of churches, chapels, schools, and other agencies whose ostensible functions are to teach and foster the reading and proper understanding of it, it is amazing to me how little intimate, intelligent, and real knowledge most people have of its contents. It is no less astonishing to find how ill-known is the little that is professed to be known; and this deplorable ignorance and misunderstanding is not confined to common readers such as I am, but many clergymen and ministers of religion, despite what one would naturally expect, are almost as imperfectly informed. Indeed, with many of them the case is much worse. Often when they see, or may see if they will, the true and obvious meaning of a passage of Scripture, they construe it in some other way, add to, or subtract from it what the writer never meant, and sometimes put in a meaning the very opposite of that which is manifestly intended.

It has been so with the history of creation as given in the first two chapters of the Book of Genesis. No reader of common sense and common honesty can fail to see or will refuse to admit, that the writer (or rather writers, for there are two very different accounts) meant by the term "day" exactly what we in our time understand by it, namely the period between the setting, or of the rising of the sun, and another the same, next following—"God divided the light from the darkness." "God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night, and the evening and the morning were the first day." According to the first account, the process of creation went on daily, till the end of the sixth day, after which the writer, probably for the

humane purpose of instituting divine sanction to the Jewish Sabbath, assigns to the Almighty a "day of rest." Erroneously, as we now know, he fixes the creation of the earth three days before that of the sun and the stars, but does not say whether it was made round or flat. Neither does he say it was made out of nothing, nor anywhere in the Bible is it so said. This statement was left to be made by less reverent and more presumptuous theologians, who have not hesitated, since the establishment of the science of geology, to make the still more impudent one, that each one of the six days was meant to stand for indefinite periods of time extending over thousands of years! Poor Hugh Miller, subservient to the baseless notion that traditionary lore was the unerring speech of the Infinite, wrote: "Between the creation of the matter of which the earth is composed, as enunciated (!) in the first verse [of Genesis] and the earth's void and chaotic state, as described in the second, a thousand creations might have intervened." Another Scotchman, a D.D. and F.R.S.E., in a large work published about twenty years ago, and intended for the instruction and guidance of biblical students, says "It is enough to believe the account is a true history written by one who was unerringly guided by the Holy Ghost, in every sentence of his narrative." Again, "We have in the first chapter of Genesis a true history of creation as it *now* is, and in writing it Moses was under the *direct* guidance of the Holy Spirit"! The writer of the account himself, Moses or some other prophet, claims no such exceptional privilege. I cannot quite agree with Paul, who ventured to say what his Master never did, "*All* Scripture is given by inspiration of God," and I shrink from such audacious and blasphemous notions of inspiration as are implied in these extracts. Bradlaugh never uttered anything grosser or more unscrupulous.

It is nowhere said in the Bible, directly or indirectly, that the earth is round. All the writers of scripture whenever they allude to its structure and location speak of it as immovable, and resting upon "foundations," or upon "pillars." The gentlemen who arranged the services of the Church of England as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer, in copying the beautiful and spirited ninety-eighth Psalm, have introduced the phrase "round world," very likely only for the sake of rhythm. In the A. V. of the Bible it is not so.

In the glorious and sublime poetry of the Book of Job it is written:—

He stretcheth out the north over the empty space,
And hangeth the earth upon nothing. --

The pillars of the heavens tremble,
And are confounded at His rebuke.

God alone understandeth the way thereof,
And He alone knoweth the place thereof,
For He looketh to the ends of the earth,
And seeth under the whole heavens;
To make a *weight* for the winds;
And he establisheth the waters by measure,
When He made a decree for the rain,
And a way for the lightning of the thunder.

The writer of this had probably as clear a notion of the figure of the earth and of the atmosphere having weight as Shakspeare had of the Electric Telegraph when he wrote "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes."

It is worse than vain and useless to extract from the Bible words and phrases which, wrested and detached from their legitimate connection, may be invested with a meaning quite opposite to that obviously intended by the writer, and set them forth as proofs that he possessed a knowledge he neither had nor pretended to have. They who do this thing produce a condition of mind in all intelligent and honest inquirers into truth the very opposite of that which they profess to be anxious about. In readers impatient of accepting truth upon the mere authority of others, they induce a resentful prejudice against the Scriptures; and to the humble and confiding inculcate notions characteristic of a selfish and fickle earthly potentate rather than of the Lord of the Universe. They speak and write of the "thoughts and feelings" of the Almighty, of whom the greatest of the prophets writes: "There is no searching of His understanding," as vulgarly and familiarly as they do of their own. From an indefinite number of a like kind, I give another sentence from the writings of the Scotch D.D. I have before quoted:—"It would be wholly unmindful of the great design of God in giving to man the Scriptures of *truth*, to demand from them the accuracy of advanced science in descriptions of the material world!" Not to speak of the greatest poets, scientists, and philosophers, is there any author of ordinary sense and self-respect that would deem it complimentary to be spoken of in this way? Job said to his bigoted and narrow-minded, but well-meaning, friends,

Will ye speak wickedly for God,
And talk deceitfully for Him? --

The honestest, ablest, and wisest exponents of any church would hardly claim for it the merit of being in full and exact accordance with absolute truth, but they nearly always seem to speak and write as if they really cared a little more for the former than they do for the latter. I would not say they do it "wickedly," but surely they are somewhat blameworthy. Upon all the churches, Catholic and Protestant alike, the doctrine of the plenary inspiration of the Scriptures sits like a terrible ogre. Not only the consciences and freedom of priests are sacrificed to it, but the bright promise and fair reputation of hundreds of accomplished scientists and philosophers have been crushed by its pernicious influence. Luther in his grand effort to substitute the authority of the Bible for that of the Church of Rome, though he allowed himself to be closely manacled by this ogre, had the courage and manliness to question the canonicity of the "Book of Revelations" of St. John; and, surely, if he could safely claim for himself the right to interpret the Bible according to reason, so may others who perhaps are not a bit less reverent and conscientious than he was.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

ANCIENT HABITATIONS IN THE CONWAY VALLEY.

(Query No. 3,623, Sept. 27.)

[3,635.] As no one has so far replied to Mr. JAMES NEILD's Query respecting the above remains, I venture to place before your readers the little I have been able to glean concerning them. In the first place I think I must lay claim to have been the first to bring them prominently into notice. Five or six years ago I was sketching in the wood where they are situate, and as it was in the middle of winter, I got up occasionally for a little exercise; and as in winter the ferns with which they are so thickly overgrown have disappeared in summer, that is the best time to see them. In strolling about (and always being on the look out for antiquities), it gradually crossed my mind that the stones which were so thickly strewn about were mostly of a peculiar shape, and arranged systematically, and on a careful examination I became convinced that the place I was examining was an ancient British town. At that time there were walls crossing the chambers at certain distances, which convinced me that they were carefully designed to repel attack; but these have since been unfortunately broken through to form a road to drag timber down from the heights

above. That is the explanation of some of the larger stones bearing marks of being split in the fashion usual now-a-days. Before that all the upper stones were of the form peculiar to these ancient dwellings, namely, the small roundish boulders, which, in all the ancient settlements I have seen, are found in vast quantities on the spot, notably at the greatest of all—Tre Ceiri—or the City of Fortresses. This latter I shall hope to describe at more length before long. Mr. NEILD, being learned in geology, will understand better than I can why this is. It is evident that these ancient fortresses were built before the use of rock-splitting tools was known.

With respect to Dolgarog, there are in the wood on the cliff across the valley similar remains exactly opposite. There is a tradition that the valley from here to Conway was anciently thickly inhabited, of which there still remains ample proof. Similar remains are found at Gorswen lower down, and there called "fairy rings"; also at various points on Tal-y-fan, notably the rock jutting out on the Conway end, where there is an almost perfect British fortification. The pity is that the ancient and modern farmer, finding these (to him) heaps of stones, has utilized them in the miles of walls about Dolgarog and Gorswen. On the roadside by the former place is an upright stone plainly shaped by the hand of man, and by it the greater part of a flat stone which has evidently crowned a small cromlech.

I have carefully inquired from those most likely to know if there was any tradition connected with these stones. Two of the best read natives of the district were not aware of them until I pointed them out. One, who is a good antiquarian scholar (in the Welsh), said the ancient meaning of Dolgarog was doubtless Dol Ceiriau, or the field or vale of the fortifications, which I should think extremely likely. Nearer Trefriw is a place called Bryn-y-Pwll, which my friend said meant the bloody field. It is certain that at different times many stone weapons have been ploughed up which are in the possession of the present farmer. The Cambrian Archaeologists visited Dolgarog last year. I was invited to meet them, but was away at the time. So far as I have learned they came to no conclusion, except that the remains were very ancient and similar in character to the dwellings of the Stone Age, and that the small recesses in some of the chambers were formed to keep their flint implements in.

As I remarked in a former letter, these remains and

the cromlech near Mr. NEILD's house, with many which have lately disappeared, seem to mutely tell us that when the Romans crossed the Con'way they found this valley more thickly populated than it is even now.

JOHN JOHNSON.

QUERIES.

[3,636.] ELECTION NEWSPAPERS.—At the Walsall election in 1841, a small newspaper was issued each morning during the contest. Is this the first instance of the printing of a daily paper for election purposes?

R. G.

M. Paul Lacroix, surnamed "the Bibliophile Jacob," an author of repute, and the owner of a library of 20,000 volumes, died in Paris on Thursday at the age of seventy-seven. He had for many years been a keeper of the Arsenal Library, and in that capacity rendered willing assistance to literary researches. His brother, M. Jules Lacroix, translated some of Shakspeare's plays in verse.

INTERESTING MEMENTO OF THE OLD VOLUNTEERS.—A gentleman called at our office a few days ago and submitted for our inspection a silver prize medal, bearing on one side the figure of a rifleman in the act of firing from the knee, though not quite in the Hythe position, and the words, "Dukinfield Independent Riflemen, embodied July 17th, 1804;" on the reverse, "Presented by Captain Francis Dukinfield Astley to John Haughton, for firing the best at the target, January 1st, 1808." The medal is in excellent preservation, and is in the possession of Mr. Charles Haughton, of Ashton-under-Lyne, the son of the fortunate winner.

WHERE ENGLISH HARD-EARNED MONEY GORS. A curious revelation on this point is given by the Paris correspondent of *Truth*, who states that King Leopold the First, of Belgium, received from England up to the date of his second marriage, with the Princess Louise of Orleans, no less than £1,320,000 as the widower of the Princess Charlotte. The entire direct profit he derived from his English match was £1,960,000. Most of the income that John Bull allowed him after he went to Belgium was saved, and so judiciously invested that he was able to leave each of his three children upwards of a million sterling.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN AN ENGLISH VILLAGE.—The *East Essex Times* states that in a village, which is understood to be Great Thurlow, Suffolk, where there were plenty of untenanted houses, the Rev. J. Akins, lately appointed to work in that locality by the Suffolk Congregational Union, had not been allowed to rent a house or occupy lodgings because he was a Nonconformist minister, and he was, therefore, obliged to dwell at the public-house or give up his mission. Some of the villagers would undoubtedly have accommodated the evangelist, but it was intimated to them that a notice to quit would follow upon their daring to receive him even as a lodger.

Saturday, October 18, 1884.

NOTES.

RICHARD WILSON'S GRAVE.

[3,637.] Last spring, in Mold churchyard, under the shade of the fine old church, with a soft wind waving the milky-white tresses on the hawthorns, bright sunshine above and sprightly shadows flecking the graves and mounds where "the sleeping tenants thickly lie," the grave of Wilson unexpectedly attracted notice. It is a simple memorial in perfect condition, and has upon it the following inscription in English:—

The remains of Richard Wilson, Esq. Member of the Royal Academy of Artists. Interred May 15th, 1782, aged 69.

And underneath lines in Welsh which it was a labour of love to copy, with a view to translation. They are as follows:—

O foran! i Yrfa eirian—Rhoi oleu
Ei athrylith allan.
Darluniai, dilynai n lan
Ir linell ar ol anian.
Yn llaw ei oes bu'n llesol Dygiddi
Deg addysg gelfyddol
Ai gywir, waith geir oi ol
A synar oes bresenol.

This specimen of the oldest spoken language in Europe being, of course, unintelligible to an Anglo-Saxon, the good offices of an estimable Welsh lady in Mold were readily promised, and she has faithfully kept her word. An eminent Welsh scholar at Llanarmon has kindly done it into English metre through her intervention. He says, "I send you Wilson's Epitaph done into English—the first stanza slightly overdone; but, as you are well aware, the Welsh poet too often sacrifices sense to sound."

TRANSLATION.

He, from the morning of his brilliant course,
Gave out his genius' light with glowing force,
The face of Nature faithfully portrayed,
And from her truth a single step ne'er strayed.
The darling of his age he added more
Of culture's wealth to its artistic store:
With growing care his works are treasured still,
To rouse our wonder at his matchless skill.

H. B. JONES (GARMONYDD).

The foregoing vigorous stanzas are worth preserving, and surely it will interest many readers to be reminded or informed as to the resting-place of one who, more than a century since, founded the modern school of English landscape—the contem-

porary of Reynolds, and one of the first members of the infant Royal Academy—a thorough Welshman, though artistically nursed in Italy and worn-out in London; for he was born in Wales, and when the sere and yellow leaf tinged his closing days he returned to his own, his beautiful native land, to die. Of him and his works Welshmen may be specially proud; and though in life his grand work was comparatively disregarded, it is now more justly valued wherever true art is upheld. “After life’s fitful fever he sleeps well.” N.

THE BARONS OF MAGNA CHARTA AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

[3,638.] On Saturday, October 4, you printed a paragraph of some historical interest relating to the Barons who signed Magna Charta. The paragraph states that “there is no descendant in the present House of Lords of the twenty-five Barons who signed Magna Charta.” I venture to dispute the statement, and I think I have good reasons for doing so. I will give the names of six members of the present House of Lords who are descendants of one of the twenty-five Barons. Should it be thought necessary I can supply more information on the subject, as other Barons have descendants in the House of Lords.

William de Mowbray joined the rest of the Barons in their resistance to King John, was present at the signing of Magna Charta at Runnymede in 1215, and was one of the twenty-five Barons of the realm appointed to superintend its observance. Like all Barons at that period, he was a Baron by tenure only. It was not until the following reign that it was established that no person, though possessed of lands to constitute a Barony, should come to Parliament without being expressly summoned by the monarch’s writ. Barony by tenure has ceased for centuries, and, although of late years claims have been made to dignities by right of tenure, none have been successful. The Duke of Norfolk enjoys the Earldom of Arundel by the feudal tenure of Arundel Castle (the only case), but this honour exists in consequence of a special Act passed by Parliament in the happier days of King Charles the First.

The grandson of this William de Mowbray, viz., Roger de Mowbray, received a valid writ of summons to Parliament, and became a peer of the realm by the title of Lord Mowbray. His descendant, John, Lord Mowbray, was slain in 1368, when on his way to the Holy Land. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter and

heir of John, Lord Segrave, and Margaret, granddaughter of King Edward the First, he had a son John, who became Lord Mowbray and Segrave. The male heirs failed, but the fifteenth Lord Stourton married, in 1749, Winifred, the heiress to the titles, and her descendant sits in the present House of Lords as Lord Mowbray, Segrave, and Stourton. The ninth Lord Petre married Winifred’s sister Anne, and their descendant, Lord Petre, is a member of the present House of Lords. The Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Berkeley, Lord Howard of Glossop, and Lord Fitzhardinge, are also descendants in the female line from the William de Mowbray I have alluded to.

I think I have shown that the remark—“there is no descendant in the present House of Lords of the twenty-five Barons who signed Magna Charta” is a mistake. I believe that there is no direct *male* descendant of the Barons in the House of Peers.

C. DAGGATT.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THEOPHILUS AND SAMUEL EATON.

(Query No. 3,629, October 4.)

[3,639.] Samuel Eaton, of Dukinfield, the celebrated Nonconformist minister, and Theophilus Eaton, the first governor of New Haven, were brothers, both being sons of the Rev. Richard Eaton, vicar of Great Budworth, in Cheshire. An account of Samuel Eaton, with a full list of his many controversial writings, will be found in *East Cheshire*, vol. ii., pp. 28-34, and on p. 33 is a note referring to Theophilus Eaton, his brother. J. P. EARWAKER.

* * *

These remarkable persons were brothers. See Cotton Mather’s *Magnalia Christi Americana* (Lond., 1702, fol.) iii., 213. Their father and grandfather, both named Richard, were successively vicars of Great Budworth, near Northwich. (Ormerod’s *Cheshire*, ed. Helsby, i., 611). A discourse by the father in 1616, being a funeral sermon on Thomas Dutton of Dutton, Esq., is in the Manchester Free Library. Before this he was successively minister of Stony Stratford and Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Coventry. The sons were of considerable note.

THEOPHILUS EATON is one of the saints in the American hagiology. The historian Savage says that “no character in the annals of New England is of purer fame than that of Theophilus Eaton.” (Winthrop’s *Hist. of New England*, i., 228.) The American

authorities say that he was born at Stony Stratford, co. Bucks. For several years he represented Charles First at the Court of Denmark; and he was engaged in 1634 for the Fellowship of English merchants about the regulations for selling foreign cloth in Poland. Described as a London merchant of position, he emigrated to America in 1637 with Edward Hopkins, his son-in-law, both being termed "men of fair estate and of great esteem for religion and wisdom in outward affairs." In the following year the emigrants founded the colony of New Haven, in Connecticut, and Eaton was governor of the same for twenty years. He died 7th January, 1657-8, aged 67. Some of his letters have been printed in the *Massachusetts Historical Collections*, vol. vi., but none of them contain information of his family except an expression of his concern at the miscarriages of his brother Nathaniel, and a reference to his cousin Malbon. His seal was T.E., with a branch intertwined, in a rope border. The note on him in Ormerod's *Cheshire*, i. 611, foot of page, is inaccurate.

SAMUEL EATON, the Independent teacher of Dukinfield, and the opponent of Adam Martindale and Richard Hollinworth, was born in 1596 or 1597. An account of him is given by Anthony Wood in the *Athen. Oxon.* (iii., 672), who says that he was son of Rich. Eaton, vicar of Great Budworth in Cheshire, and that he was "born in a little village called Crowley in that parish, and educated in this University, as his relations have informed me." After his ordination he was appointed to a benefice in Cheshire; but his education in the puritan home of his father brought him into trouble with his diocesan and with the high commission at York. He accordingly sailed for Holland, where his Congregational convictions were strengthened. In 1637 he went with his brother Theophilus to New England and was settled in the ministry as assistant to Mr. Davenport. Before January, 1640-1, he returned to his own country and set all Cheshire by the ears by a sermon which he preached at St. John's Church, Chester; and another at Knutsford. He gave out that the names of parsons and vicars were anti-christian; that pastors, &c., should be chosen by the people; that the book of Common Prayer, a thing of human invention, was unsavoury and loathsome unto God; that it was a heinous sin to be present in church when prayers were read out of a book; that each congregation should censure its own members, and not allow this power to the Bishops; that episcopal government should be

abolished, and that those who helped not in the work should be cursed like Meroz; and, finally, that the power of the keys belonged to the whole congregation. He settled for a time at Dukinfield and Stockport; but, beating drum ecclesiastic, he was away in Ireland, Scotland, and elsewhere, as chaplain in the armies, and gained the favour of Col. Dukinfield, Col. Worsley, Col. Lambert, and other officers. In 1654 two members of his church, evidently selected for the purpose by reason of their military titles—viz., Lieutenant Edward Harper and Ensign Arnold Baxter—addressed in his behalf a petition to the Protector "for the Church of God in Stopford." They say that God had gathered together many of His people in fellowship and had provided for them Samuel Eaton, who had been pastor there and at Dukinfield ten years, and was a famous instrument for conversion and building up; but by reason of taxes and other losses they could not entertain him well, nor even continue their small pittance to him. The State they continue, had already granted him £40 per year, but many younger men had £100, and few as little as £40, unless they have more from the place where they preach; and they therefore begged for an addition to his salary. This request was not carried out until 1657, though it is manifest that Eaton had many friends, including the Protector, in the Council of State. In 1654 Eaton was made an assistant-commissioner for ejecting ministers in Cheshire. Himself in turn ejected in 1662, he died in 1664-5, and was buried in Denton Chapel. There is a notice of him in that singular compilation already alluded to, the *Magnalia* of Cotton Mather, who was indebted for some of his facts to "Rabshekah Wood," as he calls the Oxford antiquary. Fuller details of his life and writings are given in Mr. Earwaker's *East Cheshire* (ii. 28), and Mr. Heginbotham's *Stockport* (ii. 16). The former gentleman printed his will, which mentions Samuel's brother, the governor, and other New England relatives.

The other brother, NATHANIEL EATON, was the black sheep of the vicar of Budworth's family. His parentage is wrongly given in Ormerod's *Cheshire*, i. 611. He was born in 1609, was educated at Westminster School, and elected to Oxford in 1629. He also emigrated to New England, and became the first head of Harvard College; but he so deported himself that Mather writes of him in very severe terms. His conduct reached a crisis in 1639, when he cruelly beat one of the scholars, named Nathaniel Briscoe, with

a walnut cudgel which is described as being big enough to have killed a horse! On account of his delinquencies he was deprived of his office, expelled from the Church, and his estate was seized for the benefit of his creditors. He fled to Virginia, where, becoming a minister, he lived a very irregular life, and was drunken, "as the custom is there." He sent for his wife and children; but though the wife was persuaded to stay, she would go, "and the vessel was never heard of after." This lady who belonged to the neighbourhood of Manchester, was questioned about the scant diet she used to give to her husband's school-boarders; and her curious confession is extant, which incidentally mentions the proverbial excellence of the meal ground at the school mills of Manchester. "And for their pudding being given the last day of the week without butter or suet, and that I said it was miln of Manchester in old England, it is true I did so, and am sorry that they had any cause of offence given by having it so." From Virginia Nathaniel returned to England, and, conforming at the Restoration, he obtained the vicarage of Bideford, co. Devon, where, resuming his evil courses, he was imprisoned for debt in the King's Bench, and there died.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

WARTHE.

(No. 3,267, October 4.)

[3,640.] I am interested to find that the word "warthe," in the sense of "become," is still or was recently in use in Lancashire. Judging from the form of the word as well as from its signification, I have no doubt it is from the Anglo-Saxon verb "weorthan," to be, or to become. It is closely connected with the German "werden," and these are cognate Icelandic and Gothic forms. In some of the following quotations it will be seen that it is used exactly in the senses ascribed to it by Mr. ANDREWS in the illustrative example which he has given. For the sake of some readers who may not be familiar with the older forms, I have appended a line of explanation where it seemed desirable.

Seint Dunstanes moder taper, afure *worth* anon
That heo heild on hire hond.—*Robert of Gloucester.*

That is, the candle of St. Dunstan's mother, which she held in her hand, immediately *became* lighted.

And god leve him grace to god man to *worthe*.
God give him grace to *become* a good man.

Four rotheren him before that feeble were *worthen*.
Four oxen before him that were *become* feeble.

It is sometimes used in an active sense:—

He *worth* upon his steede gray.

Chaucer's *Tale of Sir Thopas*.

That is, he *got upon* his gray steed.

In the following examples it occurs in a subjunctive or optative sense, in which it is still found occasionally in poetry:—

Wo *worth* the faire gemme vertueless!

Wo *worth* that herb also that doth no boote:

Wo *worth* that beauté that is routhless!

Wo *worth* that wyght that tret each under foote!

Chaucer's *Troilus and Cryseyde*.

Wo *worth* the man

That first did teach the cursed steele to bight

In his owne flesh.—*Faerie Queene*, book ii., canto 6.

Woe *worth* the day.—*English Bible*, Ezek. 30 c. 2 v.

Marsh, in his *Lectures on the English Language*, speaks of the disappearance of this verb as "a real loss to the English language," and quotes some curious instances of its late occurrence in the form of "wert" (note, p. 317), where it might easily be mistaken for the subjunctive of the verb to be. He fixes upon the seventeenth century as the time when this verb became obsolete.

J. CROMPTON.

Cheetham Hill.

QUERIES.

[3,641.] MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES.—The anniversary of the twenty-fifth year of married life is called the silver wedding; of the fiftieth, the golden wedding; of the seventy-fifth, the diamond wedding. From what source were these terms derived, or, in other words, how did they originate? S. K.

The most enterprising of London newspapers, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has just issued an Index to its contents for the half-year, from January to June, 1884. It is a splendid piece of work of its kind—well classified, comprehensive, most elaborate, and as easy as it will prove invaluable for reference. The dates are in each case given, so that it will prove most useful to politicians and journalists, and in public institutions and libraries. To show in what way, it is perhaps sufficient to say that the Obituary Index enumerates some three hundred names, that there are over one thousand dated references to events in Egypt, and that Accidents are classified under various headings, such as carriage, football, cycling, cricket, gales, shooting, riding, and miscellaneous. In short, the Index forms a chronicle of events for the period over which it extends, enabling an episode, or event, to be traced with ease and accuracy.

Saturday, October 25, 1884.

NOTES.

A STREET NAME.

[3,642.] Some fifty years ago a person passing from Manchester to Salford over the Old (now Victoria) Bridge, would at the lower right-hand end have seen a flight of stone steps, the entrance to a large low-lying plot of ground knee-deep in sand deposited by the river floods. It was called "The Stanihurst," a corruption of "The Stanniries," and was overlooked by a long building called the Wool Market, through the middle floor of which, like the rows in Chester, ran a Piazza, the public way to a small lane ending in Chapel-street, Salford, opposite the end of Greengate. The swing-boats, merry-go-rounds, and other funs of Salford Dirt (October) Fair, held their carnival on this plot, whilst the shows and booths were ranged along Chapel-street as far as Trinity Church. A name sign has been put up at the Chapel-street end of the lane, as "Starryhurst." Surely the Salford Corporation schoolmaster must be abroad.

JAMES BURY.

MANCHESTER DEEDS—A.D. 1692-3.

[3,643.] From a (contemporary) copy of a deed poll, dated the 24th February, 1693, by which "Joseph Scott, of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Grocer, and Katherine his wife send greeting," I extract the following information. Mr. and Mrs. Scott had received from "Robert Stevenson, of Manchester aforesaid, Butcher, sonn of Thomas Stevenson, late of Manchester aforesaid, Butcher, deceased," the sum of £200, which has payable to Mrs. Scott under the will of the said Thomas Stevenson; and, in consideration of that fact, Mr. and Mrs. Scott by the deed in question released "unto Roger Smith, of Withington, in the County aforesaid, Yeoman, and Edmund Smith of Hulme, in the Parish of Manchester aforesaid, Yeoman (in their full and peaceable possession and seizen being) and to their heirs and assigns for ever," the interest of Mr. and Mrs. Scott in "All and singuler the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, rents, reversions, Services and hereditaments, mentioned in" the before mentioned will, and formerly the property of the Testator.

The copy deed, above epitomized, is made upon an unexecuted engrossment of another deed (having apparently no connection with the foregoing), intended to have borne date in November, 1692, and

made between "George Ouldham, of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Shoemaker," of the one part, and "Lawrence Bent, of Parcy-long, in the parish of Winwiche, in the County aforesaid, Husbandman," of the other part; being an intended lease of "All that Messuage or Tenement, Scituate, lying or being att or neare the Houghesend, and being commonly called or knowne by the name of the Houghesend Moss, with the outhouseinge, orchards, Gardens, Lands, Meadows and Pastures, feedings, Woods," &c., &c. . . . "As the same are now occupied or enjoyed by Isaac Sharlocke (the which said aforesaid premises are in the Parish of Manchester aforesaid)," for a term of three years at a rent of £14. Reference is made in this deed (or rather engrossment) to the "now Marld Land," and to "the Lime field;" and power is given to the lessee "to Burne and Plow what parte or as much of the Moss as hee Pleases."

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES.

(Query No. 3,641, October 18.)

[3,644.] S. K. omits the copper wedding, supposed to be the tenth anniversary. These names and customs prevail principally in northern Europe. On each anniversary a present made of the material it was named after should be given to the married pair—something made of silver at the silver wedding; and so at each, copper, silver, gold, or diamond. The latter expensive material is, happily for the friends, not likely to be often required, as very few couples are likely to live together until the seventy-fifth anniversary of their wedding day, when they could not be very far from a hundred years old. There is a custom in Aberdeenshire quite distinct from these called the "siller marriage"—being the same as the "pennie brydal" or "penny wedding"—where the guests contribute money to help the housekeeping of the newly-married pair.

A. E. S.

Didsbury.

* * *

Apparently a simple explanation affords sufficient elucidation for silver, golden, and diamond weddings—the divisions of years, probably arbitrary except in so far as they are, of course, essentially progressive. But very fitly is it, as the years of married life roll on and the union gets more and more cemented and strengthened by added time, that the names of three

precious materials of such distinctly ranging and progressive value as gold, silver, diamonds, should be thus considered the appropriate exponents.

C. BLAIR.

ANCIENT HABITATIONS IN CONWAY VALLEY.

(Nos. 3,623 and 3,635.)

[3,645.] Having read with great interest Mr. John Johnson's Note No. 3,635, I should like to ask him or any other reader if he can give any information as to a curious heap of stones, evidently the remains of a large encampment or fortification, on the highest point of the range of hills between Conway and Penmaenbach. The name by which I have always known it is "Cieriau-gwyddelliod," though I am not at all sure that this is the correct way of spelling it, and I was told many years ago that it meant "the camp of the Irishmen." It is an immense heap of stones of all sizes, and the arrangement seems to have been a thick wall surrounding a number of circular huts; other circles of stones are also plentiful outside the line of the wall. It is on the highest point of the hill in a very commanding situation, on one side the sea and on the other a magnificent view of the Conway valley. Who could have been the people inhabiting this place, and for what purpose could an encampment have been placed in such an inaccessible position? Is it likely to have been in any way connected with Druidical rites?

J. W. BEAUMONT.

Wilmslow.

THE DRAMA IN ENGLAND.

(Nos. 3,608 and 3,625.)

[3,646.] In affixing the date of the first production of plays in England it is first necessary to determine what is a play. From the dawn of modern civilization there has always been a kind of theatrical entertainment, whether as miracles or moralities; and although the earliest record of a miracle being performed is in 1119 at Dunstable, there is little doubt that such entertainments existed previously; nor is there either any doubt that these were entirely theatrical in their nature, and were only not dramatic because they involved no plot. Indeed, in reading the minute descriptions extant of the elaborate scenic effects produced for the representation of *Gordubuc* and Ben Jonson's *Hymeneal Masque*, one is led to think that with the suppression of plays stage management must have become a lost art, only to be revived during the Victorian era.

The transition between these moral plays and the modern drama was a matter of gradual growth, and it is quite impossible to put your finger on the date of a given year and say, "this is the first year England saw a play." In the earliest part of the sixteenth century great strides were made. John Heywood's *Four P's*, Udall's *Roister Doister*, and Bishop Bale's *Kynge Johan*, all claim seniority of age before Norton and Sackville's *Gordubuc* or Bishop Still's *Gammer Gurton's Needle*. I have always understood that the first licence was granted to "the servants of Sir Robert Lane" in 1572; though the patronage accorded to actors by Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was equivalent to a patent, in so far that it only wanted the act and deed of a royal seal. At any rate it may be safely said that King Dick initiated the "travelling company" system so much in vogue in the present day.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

DICKENS'S POOR TRAVELLERS' HOUSE.—The "Poor Travellers'" house at Rochester, immortalized by Charles Dickens in one of his Christmas annuals, is threatened with extinction. The Charity Commissioners have drawn up a new scheme in which they propose to apply the funds of this ancient charity to the assistance of poor persons desiring to emigrate or to find them work at home, and to the maintenance of sick persons in convalescent homes. There is a strong local feeling against this suggestion.

WHICH IS THE HARVEST MOON?—There is a general impression that the present is the harvest moon, because it comes upon the scene about the time the harvest is ending. Mr. B. G. Jenkins, F.R.A.S., states, however, that the harvest moon is not until the fourth of October. It is always the full moon nearest to the autumnal equinox, September 21, and was so-called because for two or more nights the moon rises about the same time, and, as this happens about sunset, there would be continuous light for the harvesters. There are what may be called good and bad harvest moons, which occur in alternate periods of about nine years. The present harvest moon is a bad one, not because it comes a month after the harvest is gathered, but because there is considerable difference between the times of rising, being about on an average thirty minutes taken over a period of seven days; whereas in 1876, when the harvest moon was a good one, although happening as late as October 3, the average difference between the times of rising during a like period was only twelve minutes. We are now passing through a series of bad harvest moons, which will close about 1890. Even if we suppose the harvest moon happened as early as the eighth of September—and it could not happen much earlier—the eighth of September must, as a rule, find the harvest over and the moon for the purpose of helping comparatively useless.

Saturday, November 1, 1884.

NOTES.

SHAKSPERE AND SHORTHAND.

[3,647.] It is believed that some of Shakspeare's plays were taken down in shorthand at the time of their performance during their author's lifetime, and by these means only have they been preserved to us. The subject is one of so much interest as well as importance that it warrants the reprinting of the following letter by Mr. Matthias Levy from the *Times* of last week. Mr. Levy says:—

The play that has caused most discussion is *Hamlet*, and the discrepancies between the quartos of 1603 and 1604 have led many commentators to the conclusion that the earlier version was taken in shorthand. It is a curious fact that during Shakspeare's life only two systems are known to have been published—Timothy Bright, 1588; John Willis, 1602. Edmond Willis's, 1618, was published two years after the poet's death. Bright had really no alphabet, but marks or symbols to represent words. John Willis was the first to invent and publish marks for letters—i.e., an alphabet. Peter Bales, who was also contemporary with Shakspeare, published *The Art of Brachygraphy*, but he was a famous writing-master, and invented a "secret" writing. These are the only systems known between 1564 and 1616. I assume that Edmond Willis, who published in 1618, used his system some years previously, so that possibly his alphabet might also have been used. Dr. Westley Gibson, in his pamphlet on *Early Shorthand Systems*, mentions three other names, but their systems were "cryptographic." Direct evidence at present there is none, but I am of opinion we are indebted to shorthand for the surreptitious copies of some of Shakspeare's plays—i.e., *Hamlet*, *Henry V.*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and probably others. There is, however, some indirect or circumstantial evidence which is interesting. Heywood (who was contemporary with Shakspeare), in a prologue to one of his dramas, complains that—

Some by stenography drew
The plot, put it in print, not one word true.

In *The Devil's Law Case*, by John Webster (1623), we read (Act 4, scene 2):—

Do you hear, officers?
You must take special care that you let in
No brachygraphy-men to take notes.

We also know that many of the old dramatists have left on record complaints that their plays were printed without their consent, and the late Mr. John Payne Collier has discussed the subject very fully. One great difficulty in taking down in shorthand a play in blank verse and transcribing it would be to know where the line began and where it ended. I will trouble you with one illustration only from *Hamlet*.—

1603.

Why, she would hang on him, as if increase
Of appetite had grown by what it looked on.

1604.

Why, she would hang on him,
As if increase of appetite had grown
By what it fed on.

Mr. Charles Knight says, however, "such changes are not the work of shorthand writers." But there is a difference of opinion on this, as on most other matters connected with Shakspeare. There may possibly be in some libraries in England shorthand systems of which we know nothing, published in or about Shakspeare's time; and further light may yet be thrown on this subject, which will assist in clearing up the doubts which surround it.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

DIRT FAIR.

(Note No. 3,642, October 25.)

[3,648.] Mr. JAMES BURY, in his Note, speaks of "Dirt (October) Fair." This was one of the chartered fairs held in Salford, but not, as he has stated, in October. The fair was held on the 17th and 18th of November. The cattle and shows occupied Chapel-street, as Mr. B. states, up to Trinity Church, and often beyond that point. If the weather was wet, the mud and filth made Chapel-street almost impassable; hence the name, "Dirt Fair."

WILLIAM DOHERTY.

FEFNICUTE, EEM, AND KEIGH-NEYVE.

(No. 3,627 and others.)

[3,649.] Since my last note I had a conversation on the word Fefnicute with an old stager, and I have arrived at the conclusion that the right spelling is Fefmecute, and that it is a compound word bearing its own obvious meaning, already explained by Mr. Brierley. "Cute," I find, is a term of opprobrium applied in the sense of odd or queer. Thus, in country places here, a wife would term her husband, who might not please her in every respect, "Jammy Cute," or "Billy Cute," and even her own children she will sometimes call "Young Cute." I have known people called "Owd Cute."

Does anybody remember that old-fashioned word Key-neyve, applied as it used to be to left-handed people, particularly left-handed women? "Neyve," or "fist" is easily got at, but what about "Key" or "Keigh?" It is this part of the word that contains the sinister idea. It is many years since I heard this word used, and I should say it will certainly die with this generation.

What a grand old word we have in "eem"! said a busy Lancashire manufacturer to me the other day,

who even now in its season can "eem" to spend a day or so a week in hunting, "I always do my work, and take my pleasure when I can 'eem.'" I know nothing of the history of this word, but how expressive it is! Nay, how shall I express its meaning?

SAMUEL AUDREY.

Hey, Lees.

[The following definitions are quoted from the *Glossary of the Lancashire Dialect*, issued by the English Dialect Society and Manchester Literary Club:—

KEIGH - NEIGHVT, adj. = hard-fisted, malformed, applied to the hand, and referring to a hand chronically shut or half-shut. Waugh (*Besom Ben*) has: "Had he a hair-shorn lip?" "Ay, he had! An' he wur keigh-neighvt."

EHM, v. to spare time; to find an opportunity; to be able to compass an object; to get into the way of doing a thing. Anglo-Saxon, *efnan*, to be able to perform; Icelandic, *efna*, to perform, chiefly to fulfil a vow or the terms agreed upon; Danish, *evne*, to have ability; Swedish, *ämna*, to form, shape. In like manner, the Anglo-Saxon *efen*, even, becomes *eme* in provincial English. Shakspeare uses *even* as a verb.

Illustrative examples follow from *Cædmon* (A.D. 680), Dr. Byrom, and Tim Bobbin.—EDITOR.]

QUERIES.

[3,650.] **BARRING-OUT**.—Can any of your readers tell me the origin and meaning of the old school custom of "barring-out." When a very small boy I was a day scholar at a boarding and day school of some local importance in a village near Liverpool, and on breaking-up days it was the custom for all the lads to assemble in good time before the school door and wait until the master, a terrible fellow in our eyes, was seen coming up the lane from his house. Then a wild rush was made into the school, the doors locked, bolted, and barricaded, and all the windows defended. The master's approach was watched with intense excitement, and when he placed his hand upon the latch, and expressed by gesture the greatest astonishment at finding himself locked out, the position was almost too much for us. Then began the following pantomime. The door was vigorously shaken and hammered at the outside, after which the master, "like a roaring lion seeking whom he might devour," went tearing round the building, making many rather weak attempts to force a passage through the windows. This lasted about a quarter of an hour, during which the feelings of some of the smaller boys were not altogether enviable. I expected to be eaten up, at least; but when the door was opened, and the

master, with a good-humoured smile, walked up to his desk and dismissed us for the holidays, I began to wonder what it was all about; and as I am still in the same frame of mind, perhaps somebody will kindly inform me.

JOHN HARWOOD.

Pendleton.

BEAUMARIS CASTLE.—The *Athenæum* calls the attention of the Office of Woods and Forests to the neglected condition of some parts of Beaumaris Castle. The beautiful chapel is of the best type of the period, c. 1280, when it was erected, and exhibits some peculiar features. It is vaulted in stone, and the vault is still perfect; but, as the rain penetrates the roof, it would be well to cover the rampart above with asphalt and thus stop further mischief. The passages encumbered with rubbish in this fortress should be cleared. Somewhat too much was done to Carnarvon Castle when one of its noble towers was fitted as an armoury, and the window openings of another tower were filled with glass. There is, however, wide difference between this excess of "doing," and the doing nothing at Beaumaris.

HARROGATE AS A MARRIAGE MARKET.—A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says that for the cleanliness of its streets, for the solidity of its stone-built houses, for the beauty and interest of its surroundings, and for the abominable odour of its sulphur wells, Harrogate is probably unsurpassed among the watering places of the world. There is certainly no other place in Great Britain to compare with it. It combines quite a variety of climates; while Bath, Cheltenham, Tunbridge Wells, Buxton, Homburg, and Kissingen together can never hope to rival its medicinal springs in mere nastiness, to say nothing of their curative qualities. Little wonder, then, that the town is crowded, literally crammed during the season. The visitors to Harrogate are not for the most part drawn from the fashionable world; on the contrary, they are a highly respectable, intelligent, and well-conducted class, from which the rowdy element is altogether absent. You may be as quiet and as thoroughly sequestered as you please; but if you like "life" you may go to the Queen's Hotel, and take it there. Everything in that admirable hostelry is so arranged as to make it a most desirable place of sojourn for parents with marriageable daughters, as well as for young men of flirting propensities. Established custom and printed placards placed in the corridors decree that "out of respect to the ladies" men shall don the swallowtail for table d'hôte; of course, out of acknowledgment to the gentlemen, gratitude dictates that ladies shall appear in evening costume, so here at once you have that opportunity for display of dress and personal charms that is so important a factor in successful match-making. In furtherance of this worthy object, too, periodical dances are given, by which artful arrangement additional opportunity for more extensive introduction is afforded. I am not in a position to state how the marriage market stands at the present moment, but I am assured that excellent business is often transacted here; and, to judge from the repetition of visits by mammas with daughters younger than those who accompanied them before, this channel for the disposal of their offspring must be held in high esteem.

Saturday, November 8, 1884.

NOTE.

AN OLD HANGING-DITCH DEED.

[3,651.] Contemporary (viz., temp. William and Mary) with the "Old Deansgate deed," and the "Old St. Mary's Gate deed," of which I contributed notes in this column, is a deed from the original draft of which I extract the following interesting particulars. The parties to the deed are "George Chetham, of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Tape weaver, sonn and heire of George Chetham, late of Manchester aforesaid, Innkeeper, deceased," and "John Turner of Whittle-swicke, in the County aforesaid, Yeoman." For the purchase money of £140, George Chetham (the younger, of course) grants to "the said John Turner . . . and to the heires and Assignes of the said John Turner for ever All that Messuage, Burgage and Tenement, and all and every the Brewhouse, Stable and other Buildings, Orchard and Garden thereunto belonging, or therewithall usually occupied . . . scituate, standing and lyeing in Manchester aforesaid, in or neare a certaine Streete or place, there called the *Hanging-Ditch*, and formerly or heretofore in the tenure . . . of one John Duckworth . . . since in the several tenures of Jonathan Motteram and Alice Pimlett or the one of them, . . . and now or late in the actuall tenure . . . of one Jane Kay and Ralph Hartley, Gent., or the one of them . . . To hould of the Chief Lord or Lords of the ffee or fees thereof, by the rents and services therefore due and of right accustomed."

Whether this "Chief Lord of the ffee" was the representative of the Mosley family, as lord of the Manchester Manor, or was the King, as holding in a similar right to that shown in my note of the 13th September last on "Royal Possessions in Manchester" (*Toad Lane* property), I cannot say; as I have at present no information as to the earlier title of this *Hanging Ditch* property. I would, however, add that in none of my investigations (undertaken either professionally or out of love for local history) into Manchester landed titles,—with most of the principal ones of which I am pretty familiar—have I found any other record than the one I have already noticed of a holding, of Manchester property, *direct of the sovereign*. Perhaps some other

correspondent can furnish information as to the extent of mediæval, or later, Royal ownerships in Manchester *proper*. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.
24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SHAKSPERE AND SHORTHAND.

(Note 3,647. Nov. 1, 1884.)

[3,652.] From Henry Pitman's *Hints on Lecturing* I extract the following:—

Dr. Timothy Bright was the author of the first English system of shorthand, which was published in 1588, when Shakspeare was twenty-four years of age. Bright dedicated his book to Queen Elizabeth. The title of it was "Characterie: The Art of Short, Swift, and Secret Writing by Character." Bright's system is not shorthand as we understand it. He had no alphabet, but a separate character for every word, or, according to his phraseology, "every character answering a word." John Willis, the author of a subsequent system of shorthand, says of Bright's table of words, "It required such understanding and memory that few of the ordinary sort of people could attain to the knowledge thereof."

Besides the difficulty of knowing where the line ended and another begun in blank verse, the stage directions also in Shakspeare's days might well puzzle the reporter. Mr. Collier gives this illustration (which I copy from Mr. Pitman's book). As the ghost departs from the Queen's room, Hamlet exclaims, "My father, in his habit as he lived!" to which the following note is appended in Malone's edition, 1790. "If the poet means by this expression that his father appeared in his own familiar habit, he has either forgotten that he originally introduced him in armour, or may have meant to vary his dress at this his last appearance." The difficulty is, however, cleared up in the 1603 edition, for there we are told, "Enter ghost in his night gowne." It is evident that the actor who played the ghost on the occasion of the visit of the shorthand writer, was dressed in a "night gowne," and hence the stage direction, proving that the man took down what he heard and what he saw.

E. M.

BARRING-OUT.

(Query No. 3,650, November 1.)

[3,653.] The practice of "Barring-out" queried by your correspondent Mr. HARWOOD was common in school life in the time of Addison, who is said to have been in his twelfth year the prime mover in the barring-out of the Master of Lichfield School. The rule was that if the scholars could sustain a siege of three days against the master, they were entitled to

decide the length of holidays and hours of recreation for the following year. If the master succeeded in gaining an entrance before the three days expired, the pupils had to submit to his decision upon the matter. The custom, though amusing in the school-days of Mr. HARWOOD, was, unfortunately, the cause of a fatality at the Edinburgh High School in 1595. The Town Council had desired to shorten the holidays from eight days to three days, to which naturally the scholars objected, the master supporting them in the objection. The boys laid in a stock of provisions, and then, during a temporary absence of the master, barricaded the school. After a day and a night had passed, the magistrates resolved to force an entrance, with the result that one of their number was shot on the spot dead by one of the boys. The origin of the custom is possibly, like that of many other customs, involved in obscurity. T. MARRIOTT.

Trafford Road.

* * *

Barring-out must have been a very old custom. I have been told of one taking place in a girls' schools as long ago as early in this century; also of one having taken place many years afterwards in another school for girls, but I do not know the origin of the practice. The cause was discontent on the part of the girls. When told they were to have but a short vacation in summer, they privately laid their plot; came secretly, well supplied with food, to stand a siege; at a certain hour sent all the little ones to another room; asked if any of the older ones were afraid to join, and as some were, these were allowed to go also. Then the desks were moved as quietly as possible to the door, and that mode of ingress was safely barricaded against the enemy, the mistress, by the insurgents. After a prolonged resistance a truce was offered by the mistress, and as the required holidays were promised the victory remained with the girls. One of Miss Edgeworth's stories is called *The Barring Out*. The scene is laid in a boys' school. A. E. S.

Didsbury.

* * *

I well remember being at two barrings-out some forty years ago, for it was an old custom in my native county of Westmorland at that time. The object to be gained was a longer holiday than the master had announced. He would give us, say for midsummer, three weeks. We wanted a month or five weeks. So we took the first opportunity to bar him out, by locking the door and covering the lower parts of the

windows with the girls' pinafores. Then we waited the return of the enemy, when some one would answer the master's demand to be let in with changed voice and a provincial twang:—"We'll nut let ye in tell ye give us mare halidays." I think as a rule the boys won the day, but sometimes long fights would occur, kept up by relays for a day or two.

F. J. RUMNEY.

QUERIES.

[3,654.] JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.—In what part of Manchester did she reside? A. B.

[3,656.] GENTLEMEN'S RINGS.—What is the present fashion in wearing rings for gentlemen? CORINNA.

[3,657.] BUXTON HUTS OR COTTAGES.—Can any of your readers inform me if there is any local testimony to the following facts, which Carlyle makes mention of in his Journal in chronicling his visit to Buxton in 1847? (See Carlyle's *Life in London*, by Mr. Froude. Vol. I., p. 411.) The rubbish, ashes of the kilns, etc., when many years exposed to the weather, hardens into real stone, and is then a kind of rocky moleheap of large dimensions, with grass on the top. The natives then scrape out the inside, and make a cottage of the upper crust! There are five or six such huts in that place, and used to be much more. ROBERT M'LEAN.

Mr. Edmund Yates, in his Autobiography published this week, gives sketches of the different editors of *Punch*. "Mark Lemon was made for the part. Corpulent, jovial, bright-eyed, with a hearty laugh and an air of bonhomie, he rolled through life the outward impersonation of jollity and good temper." Lemon died in harness in 1870, and was succeeded by Shirley Brooks, whose "fertility of resource was matchless. He suggested cartoons for the artists, found titles for the cartoons, wrote the 'Essence of Parliament,' and never missed a suitable subject or a seizable point." He died on the 23rd of February, 1874. As a writer, says Mr. Yates, Tom Taylor was weak; as an editor, vacillating and fidgetty. He was at his best in dramatic adaptation, at his worst in his *Punch* work, which was badly-chosen, long-winded, and dull. What Taylor spoiled in a pointless column Brooks would have condensed into a paragraph or a verse bristling with wit." John Leech is described as "a man of a grave and almost melancholy cast of countenance, handsome withal, quiet, reserved, and gentlemanly in manner, a hearty hater of posing, and noise, and publicity."

Saturday, November 15, 1884.

NOTES.

MOSTON: BAKEHAM BROW OR BACUP BROW FARM

[3,658.] As a good deal of interest attaches to the ancient names of districts and portions of districts, I venture to forward you a note from Mr. Thomas Lancashire, the collector under the Highway Surveyors for Moston, concerning the name of the farm he occupies. Perhaps some correspondent of yours may be able to elucidate the meaning of the name. Mr. Lancashire writes:—

“I cannot tell with certainty whether the true name of our farm is Bacup Brow or Bakeham Brow. It is now pronounced Bakeham Brow by some, and also described as Bakeham Brow in the poor-rate books; but as many of the original names of the township have in course of time lost some portion of their original pronunciation, I always write it Bacup Brow, the way in which my father wrote it. My father and I have lived here since 1832, and I doubt not my father wrote it as his father did, viz., Thomas Lancashire, of Blue Stone, Moston, who died there in 1828, and who had been a parish officer in Moston, as collector of tithes and overseer, for nearly thirty years.”

C. W. S.

JOHN AGE-CROFT, AN INHABITANT OF BREDBURY IN LAST CENTURY.

[3,659.] On a gravestone in the burial ground attached to Hatherlow Independent Chapel, Bredbury, near Stockport, is the following inscription:—

Beneath this stone resteth the body of John Agecroft, of Barrack Hill, in Bredbury, who departed this life April the 26th, 1804, aged 88 years.

Farewell vain world, I've seen enough of thee
And now am careless what thou say for me;
Thy smiles I court not nor thy frowns I fear,
My cares are past, my head lies quiet here.
What faults you saw in me take care to shun,
And look at home, enough there's to be done.

The following account, taken from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 63 (1793), part ii., p. 712, may be interesting to some of your readers:—

The following particulars of a worthy member of society, which I learned from a friend when passing through that part of the country where he resides, may not be unacceptable to some of your readers. John Agecroft, a resident near Stockport, Cheshire, follows the business of a canvas-weaver, that particular sort which is used by painters for their large pieces, and cheers himself whilst at his labour with the thoughts that his works will be preserved and immortalized as the foundation on which others rear their laurels. He has traced, and to a certainty convinced himself, that the canvas

on which the celebrated painting of the Death of Chatham, by Copley, was executed, was entwined by himself. This circumstance alone frequently affords a pleasing subject of conversation. Without paternal inheritance, by the labour of his own hands, he has purchased a library, the value of which is said to be worth more than £100. Among his books are Chambers's Dictionary, different Histories of England, Natural Philosophy and Natural History of the Kingdom, Biographies, Geographies, all chiefly purchased in numbers; the *Gentleman's Magazine*, bound up, which he has constantly read for forty years past. He is not only his own bookbinder, but also the bookbinder for the neighbourhood. His house is the general resort of the literary men in the village, who meet either to receive information from the village Nestor or from his books. Besides being a weaver and bookbinder, he makes his own looms, and has made several for the neighbourhood. He has been enabled to build three cottages, in a niche of one of which is placed a bust of himself from a likeness taken in plaster, and from which a striking resemblance was cut by an ingenious mechanic (Henry Wilde), who was also an excellent workman. Mr. John Agecroft is a self-taught genius, having little, if any, instruction acquired from others either in reading or writing. He is now near the age of seventy-five, stout, hale, strong, and walks remarkably upright (said to be very like, in many particulars, to the Woodman, by Barker), with a degree of agility seldom found in a person of his age. He lives at present (and probably has done so the chief part of his life) on vegetables, bread, and milk, seldom touching meat, malt, or spirituous liquors. Strong in his passions, and violent in his expressions, he has the meekness of a lamb, nor would he injure a fly. This hasty sketch and imperfect tribute due to the superior merit of a man, who like many a gem, is buried in the unfathomed deep, may probably be the means of some one stepping forward (who has better information) to do justice, by giving more particulars than at present has occurred to J. H.

The cottages mentioned in the above account are still standing, with the bust, in the niche as described, underneath which is a stone in the form of an open book, with an inscription stating that John Agecroft built that house, and giving the date (which I cannot remember at this moment). Can any of your readers give any further information concerning this remarkable man?

DANIEL BENNETT.

Ardwick.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

STARRYHURST OR STANYHURST.

(Note No. 3,642, September 25.)

[3,660.] The ironworks which were pulled down on this spot some four or five years ago were called the Starryhurst Iron Works. I believe I have seen the name of the district so given on some old map, but am not able to find it at present. Amongst

documents preserved at the Town Hall, Salford, I find the following:—

1788. John Taylor, of Crumpsall, ordered by justice of assize to make "a carriage road over the Stanneries through the little arch of the bridge called Salford Bridge."

1788 to 1830. A list of rents received by the Surveyors of Highways from tenants of Stainhurst.

1790. Conditions of letting part of Stanyhurst, and prices to be charged per load for sand therefrom.

ARTHUR BOWES.

QUERIES.

[3,661.] PENDLETON.—Where was Summerville House situated? A. B.

[3,662.] PENDLETON COAL MINES.—When were the earliest mines worked in Pendleton? A. B.

[3,663.] MOSES MILLS.—I have recently seen a painting of the late Moses Mills, of Manchester, by himself. Can any of your correspondents give any account of him? I believe it is rather more than twenty years since he died. C. S.
London.

[3,663.] ROCKS ON BOW-FELL.—Can any of your geological readers give a description of some remarkable rocks on Bow-fell in Great Langdale, which lie on the Langdale side of that mountain, a hundred yards or so from its summit? Their whole surface is indented and marked with shell-like protuberances and circular indentations, varying from half an inch to an inch and a half in diameter. They are stratified, some of the layers being very thin. These strata, their various tones of colour, and the universal shell-like appearance of their surfaces, make them some of the most interesting rocks in the neighbourhood. What are these peculiar markings? Their strongly marked stratification, so different from the surrounding mass of granitic rocks, seems to suggest a separate and different period. Can it be that their being first aqueous in origin, and afterwards becoming igneous, has aught to do with these peculiar concavities? I may further observe that, on rambling about and over the top of Boulder Crag, in Borrowdale, descending its south-eastern side, I came on some interesting examples of glacier, grooved rocks, rounded, scratched, and smoothed, some twenty to thirty feet long, quite as conspicuously marked as those so well known in Llanberis Pass.

INQUIRER.

Saturday, November 22, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

(Nos. 3,650 and 3,653.)

BARRING OUT.

[3,634.] Perhaps the following note may throw some light on your correspondent's query. In an edition of Brand's Popular Antiquities, published in 1877, reference is made at page 36 to Hutchinson's *History of Cumberland*, in which it is stated that it had till within the last twenty or thirty years been a custom, time out of mind, for the scholars of the Bromfield Free School in that county, about the beginning of Lent, to bar out the master for three days. During that time the school doors were strongly barricaded within, and the boys were armed with wooden pop-guns. If the master succeeded by force or stratagem in obtaining an entrance the school routine was submitted to: if he failed after three days' siege, terms of surrender were proposed by him and accepted by the boys. The articles, which were put into writing and signed by both sides, provided for the regulation of hours of work and play during the ensuing school year. One of the terms invariably stipulated for by the boys and agreed to by the master was the privilege of immediately celebrating a football match and a cock fight. Is it not possible that this ancient custom may have found its way, in a modified form, to other counties? M. R.

* * *

Anent the old school custom of barring-out, referred to by Mr. JOHN HARWOOD, though unable to supply the origin and meaning, I may say that sixty years ago it was the practice, once a year, to bar or lock out the master of Tideswell (Derbyshire) Grammar School, and the custom in those days was considered legitimate, and was gracefully responded to, with a day's holiday, by the then master, who being an octogenarian was, I have no doubt, as glad of a day's rest as the boys of a day's play. I remember, say some fifty years back, the appointment of the old vicar's (he was vicar of Tideswell Church also) successor, the Rev. H. B. Chinn, M.A., as master of said grammar school; and I vividly remember the first time the boys asserted their prerogative and bolted out the new master. He came down to open school for early lessons about 7 15 a.m., and, finding himself an "outside" prisoner, his rage knew no

limits. Not comprehending the situation, he was simply furious, rattling the windows, shaking the door, and threatening penalties and punishments of the direst character. But all in vain. His threats were unheeded, and the only answer to his imperative demand for the opening of the door was the singing by the "whole company" of insiders of a lively and somewhat noisy chorus, the words of which ran:—

Pardon, master, pardon, pardon in a spoon,
If you don't grant a holiday we'll keep you out till noon.

At length the usher appeared on the scene, and being a local man, and having some knowledge of local traditions, he was able to explain to the irate M.A. the true state of affairs, and he at last consented to grant the "compulsory" demand, and his pardon, too, if allowed to enter the school and read the morning prayers. This was all "we rebels" required. The door was opened, order restored, the prayers read, and the holiday ratified. Even now, at this remote period from the event recorded, I can see "in my mind's eye" the twinkling smile creeping over the face of the amused master as he read the prayers.

I may add that the day selected for barring-out the master was generally one when the scholars had an inkling that the hounds would throw off somewhere in the neighbourhood. P. M. REDFERN.

Cheetham.

* * *

At the Union School, Delph, Saddleworth, forty years ago, "Owd Rooking," as he was familiarly called, but whom I prefer to designate as Mr. Rooking, wielded the ferule over fifty or sixty or more village youngsters of both sexes. "His age was like a lusty winter, frosty but kindly," and if he sometimes lashed out unmercifully at some block-head of a pupil, there were occasions when he would wreath his face with smiles and give and take a joke with great good humour. Traditions of "barring-out" existed in the village, but in the memory of the youngsters no such event had happened. It was resolved, therefore, to "make history." Three daring spirits took the matter in hand, myself among the number; and on a given day, when the usual summer holiday was nearly due, we took possession of the school-room at the dinner-hour, and sent the other boys to play outside. So that the weighty responsibility of the action might be fairly divided, one of our number locked the door, the second took out the key, and the third one hung it on a nail. To make assurance doubly sure forms and desks were then

jammed in extending from the door to the school wall opposite, and the issue was anxiously awaited. Meanwhile a crowd of villagers assembled outside, amazed to hear of such effrontery among the boys; and at length the schoolmaster himself appeared, but of course was unable to gain admittance to the school. To a man who had exercised undisputed sway amongst the village children for many many years, this was no light matter, and the schoolmaster's anger was extreme. He condescended to parley, however, through the keyhole, and promised a "good holiday" if we would let him in. The door was then unjammed, unbolted, and unlocked; the schoolmaster walked in red with indignation, and followed by the troops of scholars waiting outside. Hopes beat high in the breasts of the youngsters as "Owd Rooking" called to the desk our captain who had initiated these proceedings and had negotiated with the schoolmaster through the keyhole. A few angry words, a lash with the cane, and dismissal from the school, instant and for ever ("perpetual holiday," "Owd Rooking" called it), were what he got for being our captain. To the rest of the school no holiday came, however. The week or ten days which had in former years been accorded in the summer time was discontinued, and never afterwards renewed so far as I know, so that the youngsters might always have in mind the folly of rebellion against a schoolmaster's authority. The poor old man has long since gone to his rest, and notwithstanding his eccentricities, his sternness, and the free use of the cane, his memory will, by me at least, always be cherished for the painstaking solicitude and care bestowed by him on those who really cared to have them. My friend "the captain" still lives, and it is pleasant to think that though he was banished from the school, he has always remained true to his native heath.

W. H. B.

THE LIME-ASH COTTAGES AT BUXTON.

(Query No. 3,657, November 8.)

[3,665.] Mr. ROBERT M'LEAN asks for local testimony of facts which Carlyle mentions in his journal. I give the following:—In the *History of Buxton*, by A. Jewitt (1811, p. 106) it is stated that

One peculiarity of feature in the landscape about Buxton, though far from picturesque, ought not to be passed over in silence, and this is those habitations known by the name of lime-houses, with which the sides of the hills contiguous to the lime kilns are almost universally covered. We have frequently read of savages converting natural caverns into dwellings; but that men

in a civilized state should rather choose to scoop themselves burrows, under ground, like moles and foxes, than to erect comfortable houses, where the materials are more than plentiful, seems a paradox not easily solvable. Wretched and disgusting are these caves in the extreme, and but for having their entrances closed by a door, might be easily taken for the dens of wolves or bears than the abodes of humanized beings. Yet these hovels, wretched as they are, have pretensions to convenience, and even to beauty. That of which the annexed sketch is given [sorry the sketch cannot be enclosed] may convey an idea of one of the most cleanly and comfortable among them; it is situated on the right hand of the Leek Road near the foot of Axe Edge."

This burrow in a lime-ash hillock was neither "wretched nor disgusting." Its several rooms, windows, and doorway were well whitewashed with the lime so easily obtained from the neighbouring kilns, and in this and others on the same range large and healthy families have been reared, although you might occasionally see cows and sheep grazing on the grassy roof, close to the chimney. These cottages, scooped out of lime-ash hillocks, made solid by exposure to weather, were infinitely preferable to the bothies—in fact, in comparison, were little palaces—you find in the Highlands and the Western Isles. I have not known more than a dozen of these "wretched and disgusting caves," as Jewitt calls them, nor do I remember one that was not well kept and cleanly. The "picturesque" one of which he gives an illustration in his interesting history was inhabited until about twenty-two years ago. When the present Duke of Devonshire succeeded his predecessor, he was conducted round the Buxton estate by his agent, the late Mr. E. W. Wilmot. The Marquis of Hartington, then a young man (1858), was of the party. They called at this "picturesque" limekiln cottage on the Leek road, then occupied by an old woman—Martha Hesky (or Hesketh).

Mr. Wilmot: "Martha, I have called to introduce your new landlord, the Duke of Devonshire."

Martha: I am very glad to see you, sir, and I wish you joy in your new situation, hoping you'll be comfortable.

Martha used to sell Buxton diamonds to the Buxton visitors, who frequently visited her picturesque cottage, and to have a chat with the "downy" old woman. How old she was nobody knows; but she would never confess to more than sixty-and-ten, and sixty-and-ten she remained to my knowledge for more than fifteen years, neither more nor less. After her death, the little subterranean cottage got into bad

hands, and was occupied by immoral women; until, one day, during their temporary absence, a few pounds of gunpowder and some crowbars vigorously applied razed the disreputable establishment, and the ruins may be seen to this day. The last inhabited lime-ash cottage was just above Poole's Cavern, on the way to "Solomon's Temple." This was a "restoration," and the occupier did a good thing for several seasons by levying tolls from visitors—showing his "burrow" proudly as though it were a little Chatsworth.

All these underground dwellings are now abolished, comfortable cottages having been built by the Duke of Devonshire and the proprietors of the Buxton lime-works. Jewitt says in his history "that the sides of the hills contiguous to the lime-kilns are *almost universally covered*" with these abodes. I have not known, or been able to trace, more than a dozen. Many lime hillocks were, however, scooped out, and used as cart-sheds and shippens, in addition to the human dwellings.

The lime-ash houses were let at a pepper-corn rent of one shilling to half-a-crown per annum by the agent of the lord of the manor, the Duke of Devonshire.

J. C. BATES.

Thorneliff, Buxton.

* * *

The following facts were told me by a man who has lived in Buxton all his life, and has helped to make one of the cottages mentioned. The refuse stones and ashes from the limekilns with exposure to the weather become very hard, but never "real stone." Some of the heaps now are several hundred feet high. Stables as well as houses were made in them. A room is formed by hewing out the inside and making windows and a door. Cellars were at the back, and consequently in the dark. Of course the rooms had to be made in a single row in order to obtain light. The miners paid half-a-crown a year as rent. The walls inside were whitewashed or papered like an ordinary house. A man named Samuel Harrison lived to be a hundred in one, and his wife nearly ninety. He died about 1890. In 1847 there were only about six inhabited, but before that twenty or more. My informant knew personally the old man above-mentioned, as well as the people who lived in them later. Two cottages were at Harpur Hill, the others at Grinlow. One of the men who attends to the boats in the Gardens was born and brought up in one. The last one was destroyed about two years ago. It was inhabited by a man named Luke Bradley. They were blasted to pieces

because they were not considered to be healthy. The names of the people who last inhabited them were John Bennett, William Johnson and "Owd Esther," Joseph Esketh, Isaac Slack, Nicholas Kirk, and John Norton.
ELIZABETH DALE.
Buxton.

QUERIES.

[3,666.] **LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.**—What is the meaning of the old expression "layers for meddlers?" When I was a child, if we inquired the reason of anything that we were not to have explained, we were always told it was "layers for meddlers." Of course we were the meddlers, but what were the "layers?"
C. M.

[3,667.] **PICTURE BY JOHN HARDING.**—I have in my possession a small oval-shaped water-colour drawing, representing St. Peter the Apostle, painted by John Harding in 1821. So far as I am able to judge, it is a work of no mean order of merit, the colouring and especially the drawing being remarkably clever. Possibly some of your readers will be able to say who John Harding was, how he ranked as an artist, and whether his works are thought much of at the present time.
H. S.

COBDEN AND STOCKPORT.—It has been decided to erect in Stockport a statue of the late Richard Cobden, the great Freetrader having begun his parliamentary career as representative of the borough. Two months after Cobden's death a Cobden Memorial fund was formed, and a sum of nearly £1,000 subscribed for a statue, but for some reason or another the project has never been carried out, the money lying untouched at the bank. The subscribers have now decided, at a meeting presided over by the mayor, to proceed with the work.

PARLIAMENT AND NEWSPAPERS.—Readers of parliamentary reports may naturally conclude that when an attack is made upon a newspaper that the copy would be produced in which the offending column appears. Nothing of the kind; no printed matter is allowed to be produced, except the authorized Blue Book or Government papers. No newspaper is allowed to be read to while away the time of uninterested members. They are allowed to wear their hats, it is true, but they are not permitted to open a newspaper. Therefore when a complaint is made against the proprietor of any newspaper, the article has to be read from manuscript. Farther, that no person having a stranger's ticket can bring out paper or pencil. The Cerberus, who is ever watching, will soon tell a delinquent to pocket the paper and pencil or quit the gallery. Reporters are, of course, privileged, but as they sit over the Speaker's head they are supposed not to be seen, and are really without the House.—*British and Colonial Printer*

Saturday, November 29, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(Query No. 3,666, November 22.)

[3,668.] When I was young this was pronounced "Layo's for meddlers;" and as it was said as a deterrent whensoever inquisitive fingers were inclined to second inquisitive voice, the meaning was obviously "Lay-holds for meddlers," meaning that if I meddled with the strange object of inquiry something dreadful would lay hold of me.
ISABELLA BANKS.
London.

* * *
For "layers" read "layo'ers." Illustration: "If tha meddles wi' that again a'll lay this stick o'er thy back."
D. Y. N.
Llandudno.

THE LIME ASH COTTAGES AT BUXTON.

(Nos. 3,657 and 3,665.)

[3,669.] I enclose a view of one of these cottages which, perhaps, your correspondent, Mr. Robert M'Lean, would like to see. It was sketched more than thirty years ago by Mr. Edward Hull, a brother of the celebrated artist William Hull, whose delightful pictures are so well known to every lover of art in Lancashire and elsewhere. During the last thirty-five years Edward Hull has drawn more than fifty views of Peak scenery for me, which have been engraved on steel like the enclosed, and sold in a cheap form in thousands. But, besides sketching for the engraver—humble but profitable work—Edward Hull has painted more ambitious pictures which have been favourably criticized in various exhibitions. The young woman who is standing in the cottage doorway with a broom in her hand, is now a grandmother, but she was then about eighteen, and smiled and blushed prettily when asked to stand there, at our request, for the position to her was a novel one.

J. C. BATES.

Thorncliffe, Buxton.

MOSES MILLS.

(Query No. 3,663, November 15.)

[3,670.] I knew Moses Mills well. I have a portrait of myself painted by him in the year 1848. It was considered a good likeness at the time. He then resided in Warde-street, Hulme, Manchester. He was a very jolly fellow, and fond of good company. I remember, though only a youngster at the

time, how he used to entertain the company by putting two tobacco-pipe heads on the end of two fingers. Getting a small tray, and whistling a lively tune or hornpipe, he would with his fingers give the idea of dancing with great perfection. C. A. L.

Stretford.

* * *

Some forty years ago I personally knew witty Moses Mills, and have for hours watched him painting the portraits of many of our Manchester gentlemen. He had his room full of them, and I think I remember the one spoken of by your correspondent—he (the painter) has pallet and brush in hand taking his own portrait. Many years ago a portrait club was got up for him at the Globe Inn, Medlock-street, corner of George-street, Hulme. The house is there now. It was then kept by William Phillips, and afterwards by his son-in-law, Solomon Warhurst. The good-natured landlord of the Shakspeare Inn, York-street, City Road, Manchester, would, I am sure, give your correspondent lots of information respecting the late pleasant and most humorous Moses Mills. J. T.

Conway.

[Will some correspondent supply place and date of birth and death?—ED.]

BARRING OUT.

(Nos. 3,650, 3653, and 3,664.)

[3,671.] I would like a few words on this subject to show that it is also of modern use. So late as 1870 I was a participator in a barring-out. The school I was then attending was kept at Denby, a parish in the West Riding of Yorkshire, by the vicar, the Rev. J. Johnson, and the school was held in a room at the vicarage. We had often projected a barring-out, but had never succeeded in getting our courage to the sticking point. On this particular day, however, we were determined to carry it into effect, for the ground outside was thickly covered with snow, which “lapped” beautifully, as our morning’s experience had proved, and we were anxious to be in it. It was the custom of the vicar, who was a kind-hearted and indulgent master, with a bald head and long drip-white beard, reminding one of the patriarchs of old, to retire about half-past ten each day to get his luncheon. This was the time decided upon for action. Half-past ten came, and with it the retirement of the vicar. Almost before his footsteps had died away in the distance, the knob on the outside of the door had been removed with the aid

of a knife, and the door closed and bolted on the inside, for, perhaps, in anticipation of some such event, the key of the door had long been removed. Tables and forms were then jammed against the door. Evidently alarmed at the row we were making, the worthy vicar hastily returned, when he was soon made aware of how matters stood. Mounting on a chair he peered into the room through the fanlight. This was the signal for the rebels giving another version of the lines by P. M. Redfern in last week’s issue:—

Pardon, master, pardon, pardon worth a pin,

If you don’t let us have holiday we won’t let you in.

This we chanted with the most uproarious persistence, utterly drowning the threats and commands of the schoolmaster. Finally, recognizing his disadvantage, his face broke out in a smile, and he conceded the demand. Having gained our point we at once surrendered, and the door was opened. A snow-balling match was at once proposed, sides being selected by the vicar and a gentleman who was then visiting at the vicarage. It was not long before we were drawn up in battle array in the yard behind the house, and right merrily the pelting began. Gradually the opposing ranks closed, when suddenly we youngsters surrounded our leaders and made them the enemy. The snow-balling was now resumed with renewed vigour, and such a peppering they got, as if living, they will doubtless remember to this day. Thus terminated a barring-out taken part in by

WARREN BULKLEY.

Stockport.

ANCIENT REMAINS ON CONWAY MOUNTAIN.

(Note No. 3,645, October 25.)

[3,672.] Mr. J. W. BRAUMONT asks a question very difficult to answer respecting the remains of a fortification, and a number of circular dwellings on what is locally known as the Conway Mountain. As in the case of Mr. JAMES NEILD’s query respecting the Dolgarrog remains, I have waited to see if someone more competent than myself would essay a reply; failing that I now forward what I have been able to glean respecting the Conway mountain remains. Pennant briefly says that on approaching Conway he ascended the hill near the town and inspected the ancient fortified post of *Caer Lleion*, so that in his day as in this it was known to antiquarians as “*Caer Lleion*.” This, I am told, means the fort of many houses, or the populous place, and at present there may be traced outside the fort the foundations of from thirty to forty round huts, and they are pro-

bably only a portion of the original settlement. The Rev. Owen Jones of Llandudno, who is the author of an excellent work on the antiquities of this district (which, however, is, unfortunately, only published in Welsh) ascribes these remains to the Ancient Britons and considers that they were built about the same time as Pen Caer Belyn (otherwise Pen-y-Gaer, above Llanbedr), viz., from four to five centuries before the Christian era. He also thinks it was in communication with the strong fort on the Creiddyn Mountain, above Llandudno, as the river Conway then discharged itself into the sea through "Morfa Rhianedd," between the Little Ormes Head and the hill on which stands Llandrillo Church. It was the inundation of "Maesyn Glasog" where the Lavan Sands now are, about the sixth century, which caused the change in the course of the river. This entirely agrees with the tradition I have often heard mentioned that the Conway formerly flowed to the right through the marsh a little below Llansaintfraid, or, as it is now called, Glan Conway. On the same ridge as Caer Lleion, extending from Penmaenbach to Sychnant Pass, the remains of another and smaller fort can be traced, which is celebrated as the subject of two odes composed by the princely bard, Hywell ab Owen Gwymed. He flourished in the tenth century. Hard by is a place called by his name Murddyn Hywel. To be brief, this district abounds with druidical circles and fortified camps—notably the great one on the frowning Penmaen Mawr—and along Bwlch-y-Ddenfaen are many "barrows" in which were buried the slain in the bloody conflicts between Ostorious and his Romans and the Britons during his attempt to subjugate North Wales.

And now for the tradition spoken of by Mr. BEAUMONT, as to the fort on Conway Mountain being known as "Ceiriau Gwyddeliad," or the camp of the Irishmen. I think this is very important as throwing a light on the probable builders. A quotation (brief as I can make it) from Professor Ramsay's *Physical Geology and Geography of Great Britain* has, to my mind, a singular bearing on the subject. He says, "If the earlier inhabitants were Gaelic, then they were driven westward into Wales and northward into the mountains of Scotland, by the superior power of another and later Celtic population that found its way to our shores, and pushed onwards, occupying the more fertile districts of England and the south of Scotland. The Gael

would not willingly have confined themselves to the barren mountains if they could have retained a position on more fertile lands. The proof of this as regards Wales is that as late as A.D. 597 all that part of the country west of a line roughly drawn from Conway to Swansea was inhabited by an Erse-speaking people, the Gwyddel (Gael) of the Welsh, who were slowly retiring before the advancing Cymry, and the last relics of whom, expelled from the coast, finally sought refuge with their kindred in Ireland. The names of many churches in Anglesea, and of the west of Wales generally, derived from old saints, were given by the Gwyddel before they were finally expelled."

It would be interesting if Mr. BEAUMONT would state when and from whom he heard the traditionary name.

JOHN JOHNSON.

Trefriw, North Wales.

QUERIES.

[3,673.] INIGO JONES: WAS HE WELSH OR ENGLISH?—In November, 1878, this query of mine appeared in the *Manchester City News* without eliciting a reply. Feeling confident that numerous Welsh readers of the *City News* are able to give some sound information with regard to the question I venture once more with the query. Last week I was conversing with a learned Welshman, and during our discourse the name of Inigo Jones was mentioned. He said: Ynyr—Inigo—Ignatius Johannes, was born at Dolwyddelen, Carnarvonshire, North Wales. Supposed, after having visited Italy and Denmark, to have returned to his native Wales at the time of religious differences between the Romish and Anglican churches. The Shaking Bridge at Llanrwst was built in 1636, at a cost of £1,000, from a plan by this celebrated man. The chapel of Gwydir, adjoining the old church, was from one of his designs. Erected in the year 1633. (By the way, I may here mention that the old church is undergoing restoration and enlargement, which, to my mind, simply means destruction. What on earth the enlargement is for I cannot make out, because it will never fill with a Welsh congregation.) The supposed abode of Inigo Jones, when in this part of Wales, was Penrallt Inco or Bryn Inco (Inigo), near Dol-y-garrog, close to the river that issues from Llyn Cowlyd. Mr. James Thorne, in William Mackenzie's *Imperial Dictionary of Universal Biography*, says that Inigo Jones was the son of a

cloth-worker in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, London, where he was born in 1572. As there appears to be conflicting opinions with regard to the nationality of this celebrity, it would be satisfactory to obtain reliable information.

ARLUNYDD GLAN CONWAY.

ENGLISH V. FOREIGN LABOUR.—Mr. J. S. Jeans, the secretary of the Iron and Steel Institute, read a paper on Tuesday at the Statistical Society, London, on the comparative efficiency and earnings of labour at home and abroad. Taking his figures from the census reports of 1881, he computed that the fourteen million people belonging to the wage-earning class in the United Kingdom in that year had earned a total sum of £580,000,000, the average being about £42 per head, which was an increase of ten per cent. on the sum computed by Mr. Leone Levi to represent the average earnings of the working classes of this country in 1867. A large number of details were given respecting the earnings of the working classes abroad in comparison with those of the United Kingdom, and the conclusion came to on an analysis of official returns as to the wages for each of the leading countries of the world was that in the United Kingdom the average wages paid were 45 per cent under those of the United States, 42 per cent above those of Germany, and 58 per cent above those of France. It was also shown that between 1850 and 1883 the average earnings paid in a large number of leading industries in the United Kingdom had increased to the extent of 40 per cent, while in France during the same interval the average increase of wages was 53 per cent in Paris and 65 per cent in the country. In the United States, within a much shorter interval—viz., between 1860 and 1883, the increase of wages had been practically identical with that in the United Kingdom for the longer interval stated—viz., 40 per cent. A comparison was made of the proportions of wage-earning families and children relatively to the whole population in the leading industrial countries of the world, showing that women were more largely employed in Austria and France than in any other country, and that the largest number of juvenile workers was to be found in the United States. The largest population engaged in manufactures is to be found in the United Kingdom, where it numbers 23 per cent of the whole population, against only 13 per cent in Prussia, 12 per cent in France, and 7½ per cent in the United States. With respect to the efficiency of labour the author showed from statistics of work done in cotton factories, in mineral industries, in bricklaying and earthwork, and other occupations, that English labour was considerably more efficient than that of any other country with regard to the quantity produced in a given time.

Saturday, December 6, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

JOHN HARDING, ARTIST.

(Query No. 3,667, Nov. 22.)

[3,674.] I find the name J. Harding in "A Dictionary of Artists who have exhibited works in the principal London exhibitions of oil paintings from 1760 to 1880," compiled by Algernon Graves. The entry is as follows:—Harding J.: town, Deptford; first and last year of exhibiting, 1800—1807; speciality, landscape; Royal Academy, three works.

FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

Cheetham Hill.

MOSES MILLS.

(Nos. 3,668 and 3,670.)

[3,675.] I remember Old Patriarch, as his friends familiarly called him, in the height of his popularity. About the year 1840 he assisted at an entertainment given in a room attached to the tripe shop in Stretford Road, kept by Martin Daly, when that jocular son of Erin offered the novel bet of a hat full of tripe, that he (Daly) could dance his fingers to the accompaniment of his own whistling, in a more humorous manner than could the "Patriarch." The challenge was accepted by Moses, provided that in the event of his winning, Daly should carry the stakes home for him. Daly began the event with his first and second fingers encased in pipe heads, and gave a most laughable performance. Then Moses took the pipe heads, and, with the assistance of the buxom Mrs. Daly, blacklead them to make them resemble boots, placed them upon his fingers, wrapped his fingers in a pocket handkerchief to imitate skirts, and, with a bit of burnt cork, he drew on the back of his hand the body and head of a ballet dancer. When he placed his fingers on the table the appearance of the figure was sublimely grotesque, and when he began the dance to his inimitable whistling, we broke out into a perfect uproar of applause. Of course he won the bet, and we formed a procession to escort him home in triumph. He led the way with a handkerchief tied round his head, whistling and beating time with his umbrella. His hat filled with tripe was carried immediately behind him by the irrepressible Daly, and about a score of us followed in Indian file singing "He's a jolly good fellow." When we reached his house in Wardstreet he regaled us upon the tripe, with some pickled

onions added, as he said, to "correct the acidity," after which we all went home. I am a very old man now, but I often look back with pleasure to that evening spent with the genial Moses Mills.

It was shortly after that that he went to New York, where he met with that extraordinary adventure which celebrated him throughout the United States, and which, if none of your other correspondents mention, I may perhaps narrate next week.

OLD BUCK.

Greenheys.

* * *

Perhaps some correspondent will be good enough to relate the experiences of the late Mr. Moses Mills when he fell in with the Klu-Klux Clan in America. I remember the affair caused a considerable sensation in New York at the time. JOSEPH WILKINSON.

Cheetham Hill.

BARRING-OUT.

(No. 3,650 and others.)

[3,676.] I am not able to give the origin of the custom of barring-out, but that it was the custom early in the last century the following facts will show.

At the village of Ravenstondale, Westmorland, sixty-six years since, I was attending a dame's school. She at that time had kept school thirty-eight years, and succeeded her mother who had carried on a school in the same village for forty years. This carries us back to 1740. I have heard the old dame speak of the barrings-out when she was a girl, and assisting to get her mother out, and fastening her aunt in her bedroom until all was over. The object of the school was to teach knitting—which boys as well as girls learned at that time in the Dale—and reading in the Bible and Testament, after learning the alphabet, which ended with izzard, and the character "&" was called "an per san," as near as I can remember the sound. The school was carried on in the house where the old dame lived. So sometimes a neighbour would want to have a word with her, and as soon as the elder girls had a chance the door was locked and barred. One year she was not to be got out so easily, and one day a strong girl, Ruth Adamthwaite, got her in her arms and, assisted by some others, forcibly expelled her. When she came to look in at the window and scold, the burning rod was shaken before her. The barring-out was generally in September, and we asked for a day's holiday for going nutting, and two weeks at Christmas, which

was always granted; and after an hour's frolic she was admitted, and holiday was allowed for the day, the big girls putting forms away and cleaning up the house for her. The old dame carried on the school for thirty years after the time. I went to her in 1818, and whenever I went to my native village I did not fail to call and have a chat with her. She always liked to speak of having taught for three generations.

The barring-out at the Grammar School, Ravenstondale, was carried out in September sixty or seventy years since, prior to Brough Hill Fair. The custom would be in use when the late Dean of Hereford was a pupil at the school.

WILLIAM FURNESS.

Temple Sowerby, Westmorland.

[Enough has now been said on this subject.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

[3,677.] THE SATURDAY HALF HOLIDAY.—Who was the founder of the half-holiday movement in Manchester, and also in what year it was established?

J. J. ALEXANDER.

[3,678.] GUY FAUX AND SALFORD.—Did Guy Faux marry a Hannah Radcliffe or Ratcliffe? If so, did she reside at Ordsall Hall in this neighbourhood? I see there is a Guy Faux-street close to.

T. D.

[3,679.] ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PARSONAGE.—Can any of your antiquarian readers inform me of the full dedication of the Church of St. Mary, Parsonage? Is it dedicated to Our Lady, or to St. Mary Magdalene? I notice the stained glass window over the high altar shows Our Lord and St. Mary Magdalene in the garden on the first Easter morning.

J. J. ALEXANDER.

[3,680.] EDWARD HULL.—Can Mr. J. C. Bates, of Buxton, or any other of your correspondents, inform us if Edward Hull, the artist, attended the Manchester Grammar School, under the Rev. E. D. Jackson, about the year 1839, just prior to the square cap era? I remember about that time that a scholar of the name of Hull was very clever at drawing little pictures on his slate, as tail-pieces to his lessons, and also some charming little sketches representative of the events in English History which formed part of our lessons on that subject. The death of Harold and William Rufus, Queen Boadicea and the Introduction of Christianity into Britain, are well remembered little sketches made by the scholar whose surname I query as Edward.

T. ROGERS.

Saturday, December 13, 1884.

NOTES.

A PROPERTY ENCROACHMENT IN MANCHESTER;

TEMP. WILLIAM AND MARY.

[3,681.] The following is a copy of the original draft, in my possession, of an interesting memorandum of acknowledgment and undertaking, the date of which I am able (from extrinsic evidence) to fix at about 1690. The draft, I may add, is in the handwriting of a noted Manchester lawyer of that time, Mr. Radcliffe Alexander (of Radcliffe Hall—"Pool Fold"), who, with his father, Mr. John Alexander, is buried at the Collegiate Church. It is most probable that the signed memorandum itself, if ever completed, has long since perished; and the contents of the draft are, therefore, the more worthy of publication:—

Memorandum that I, Ralph Mellor, of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Badger, doe hereby acknowledge in and with the Building, I late or heretofore erected att or neare the *Shambles-side* in Manchester aforesaid, to have made an Encroachment upon the lands and priviledges now of Mr. Samuel Shawes, Sonne and heire of Thomas Shawes, of Manchester aforesaid, Gent. deceased, to witt in breadth Westwards from a certaine Mortice in the inner side of the North-west or Corner post of a Messuage late of Mr. John Hopwood's in a direct line northwards, not onely to the house of [sic] Office of his the said Samuel Shaw's, but alsoe over the said Office; And, as I have already paid him the said Samuel Shawe 24s. for enjoying the same for the time thatt since the death of the said Thomas Shawe till his the said Samuel's attaining his age of 21 years, Soe I doe hereby engage myselfe my heires, Executors and Administrators well and truly to pay to the said Samuel Shawe his heires and Assignes the yearly summe of 4d. att 4 equall payments vizt. Midsummer &c. for and in respect of the said encroachment for and dureing the continuance of the Lease I now have from Mr. Hopwood of my Lands att *Shambles-side* aforesaid.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

EDWARD HULL.

(Query No. 3,680, December 6.)

[3,682.] In reply to the query of Mr. ROGERS, I am able to give him the desired information. Edward Hull (who is my only surviving brother) never attended the Grammar School. He was at the time referred to an apprentice as engraver with George Bradshaw, of Railway Guide celebrity, then in St.

Mary's Gate. The writer is the "scholar" to whose youthful antecedents Mr. Rogers so picturesquely and affectionately alludes.

WALTER HULL.

Brooklands.

PENDLETON COAL MINES.

(Query No. 3,662, November 15.)

[3,683.] I cannot give the date of the earliest working of mines in Pendleton, but I well remember an old coal-pit within a few yards of what was then called Agecroft Cut Bridge (now perhaps better known as Robinson's Bridge), between the Canal and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. The pit was about forty yards deep, and had ladders down the side for the men to enter. The coals were drawn to the surface by a horse and gin. I was working at Agecroft Printworks at that time, 1834.

S. B.

Pendleton.

THE SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.

(Query No. 3,677, December 6.)

[3,684.] In the entrance hall of the Free Library in King-street there is a portrait of William Marsden, the president of the committee which obtained for Manchester, in 1843, the Saturday half-holiday. Judging from the prominent position which he took in the movement, I am led to think that William Marsden was the originator of it in Manchester. In the *Manchester Guardian* for September 27, 1843, there is a report of a meeting held on Monday, September 25, 1843, to urge merchants and tradesmen in Manchester to adopt the half-holiday. At this meeting Mr. William Marsden was chairman, and it was proposed to recommend the adoption of the Saturday half-holiday, instead of Friday as previously suggested. By a report in the same paper for November 8, 1843, we find that several merchants and tradesmen in Manchester had already adopted the Saturday half-holiday. The efforts of the committee were eventually crowned with complete success. In the *Guardian* for November 29, 1843, a report is given of a soiree held in the Old Town Hall on November 27, 1843, in celebration of the Saturday half-holiday. The chair was taken by Alderman Walker, and several notable men were present, amongst others Charles Swain, William Marsden, Edward Watkin, and David Ainsworth. Reference was made to the great exertions displayed by Mr. William Marsden, as chairman of the committee, in obtaining the half-holiday. Mr. Marsden died in 1848.

E. MACKAY YOUNG.

Manchester.

* * *

Mr. William Marsden was the only son of Mr. Henry Marsden, of the firm of Marsden and Chappell of Cannon-street, in this city, and resided with his father at No. 1. Clifford-street, Oxford Road, Manchester. He has an only sister now or recently living at Southport, a Mrs. Watt. He died at Alderley Hotel, on the third day of May, 1848, in the twenty-eighth year of his age. All who wish to see a memento to their friend and benefactor will, upon going to St. John's Church, Byrom-street, Deansgate, see on the south wall a monument of singularly and appropriate device and inscription to his memory placed there by voluntary subscription, and executed by Mr. Thomas Mowbray, sculptor, then of this city. It is in three compartments. In the centre Mr. Marsden is represented in custody of angels. The left represents an ancient scribe or man of learning, as at an early date in Rome, teaching the young. On the right a game at quoits is being played. The whole is considered a masterpiece of Manchester art.

J. E. SMITH,
Architect.

Manchester.

* * *

In reply to Mr. Alexander I think it would be difficult, if not impossible, to name any one individual in particular as the founder of the Saturday half-holiday.

Before November, 1843, the hours of work in offices and warehouses were very much longer than they are at present. There was no cessation of business from Monday morning to Saturday night, and the latter was always the busiest day, and the latest at night of any in the week. It was very natural, therefore, that there should exist a widely-spread desire, on the part of warehousemen and clerks, for some relaxation of this mill-horse round of work, and for an opportunity for recreation of mind and body, and the idea of a weekly half-holiday was rather stimulated by the employers, many of whom at that time were in the habit of taking Friday afternoon as a holiday for themselves.

Whatever may have taken place previously, however, there can be no doubt that the honour and credit of bringing the question of a weekly half-holiday to a focus must be ascribed to Mr. Lowes, and a number of other young men, who, in 1843, formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of obtaining the desired concession, and by their strenuous exertions, and by the sympathy and good-will of the employers, they most successfully obtained their object before

the year ended. The chairman of the committee was the late Mr. William Marsden, who died in May, 1848, at the early age of twenty-eight years. He is buried in St. John's Churchyard, Deansgate, and inside the church there is a very handsome tablet erected to his memory, and with the following inscription:—

To memory of William Marsden, who presided over the Committee which obtained for Manchester in 1843 the Saturday Half Holiday. He died May, 1848, aged 28 years. In affectionate remembrance of his private worth, and in commemoration of the cause in which he felt so deep an interest this monument is raised by the contributions of those who have been benefited by his efforts.

Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days.

The honorary secretary to the committee was the late Mr. Robert Jacques Lowes, who died September 17th, 1874, aged fifty-six years. He is buried at Ardwick Cemetery, and upon a brass-plate let into the gravestone is the following inscription:—

In commemoration of the many valuable services rendered by him to the cause of education, and his philanthropic labours on behalf of the Saturday Half-Holiday movement, which he originated in 1843, this tablet is placed here by a few friends.

He was also honorary secretary to the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration committee in 1868, and was a man of considerable literary taste and ability. It will be seen that the word "originated" occurs in the inscription, but that, I think must be taken to mean that he originated the action of the committee. The other members of the committee were:—

Alexander Harvey
Robert Freeland
Chas. Jas. Petty
Hugh Ferguson
William Brown
Robert Milner
Richard Van Hees
Thomas Fothergill
Thomas Ragland
Robert J. Lowes
Joshua A. Edwards

Thomas A. Hitchen
Thomas Churton
John Bridge
William Tomlinson
Joseph C. Smith
Frederick Smith
William Eggleston
William Riley
William Ward
Joseph Jackson

With a view probably to uniformity of action, the committee obtained the signatures of 441 firms and individuals to an agreement that they would commence to close their places of business for the half-holiday on Saturday, the 4th of November, in the same year, and this undertaking was accordingly carried out.

It is desirable that the exact wording of the agree-

ment entered into should be put on record, and it is in the following words:—

We the undersigned bankers, merchants, manufacturers, and calico printers of Manchester, at the respectful solicitation of those in our employment agree to close our places of business at one o'clock every Saturday afternoon, commencing on the 4th November next, 1843, and to allow our servants to leave for the day, as shortly after that hour as the unavoidable exigencies of business will permit, provided the arrangement can be made general. In acceding to the request of our assistants we are influenced by a desire to promote their interests and comfort, and we do it in the expectation that according to the representations made to us, the leisure thus afforded them will be devoted to beneficial pursuits.

Then follow the 441 signatures; next comes the agreement on the same document of the carriers in the following words:—

Manchester, November 15th, 1843.

In consequence of the agreement of the merchants, &c., of Manchester to close their warehouses at one o'clock on Saturday afternoon, we, the undersigned carriers, agree (if the practice be made general) to cause our carts to be withdrawn from the streets at three o'clock on the afternoon of that day. In doing this, we are anxious to ensure the permanence of an arrangement which is so eminently desirable for our own servants, and so beneficial to all concerned.

Signed by forty-three representatives of railway and other carrying establishments. On the 27th of November a soirée was held in the Town Hall to celebrate the event.

And thus was inaugurated this important and beneficial change in the social condition of life. It has never since faltered in its course, but has spread itself far and wide over the length and breadth of the land, embracing nearly all classes, professions, and trades in its happy results.

THOMAS NOTON.

141, Dickenson Road.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(Nos. 3,666 and 3,668.)

[3,685.] The application of "Layo's for Meddlers," given by your two correspondents, is quite different to what I have generally understood. I have always heard it used as an evasive answer to prying questions. But more frequently with us "Maiden-sheds for Meddlers" is given. I should like to know the origin of the latter phrase.

W. MACKIE.

Oldham.

* * *

I do not consider either of your correspondents' replies to the above satisfactory. I rather think the term "Layoers" was used to repress undue curiosity or inquisitiveness, or perhaps to mystify the querist.

I well remember when quite a child, more than fifty years ago, I used to watch my mother when engaged in household work or preparing for cooking some dish that I did not understand, asking her in childish simplicity what it was, when she would reply, "Layoers for Meddlers." When I would further ask what are "Layoers," mother? she would reply, somewhat sharply, "find it out." I do not think she knew herself what they were, and I have not yet been able to find out for myself.

J. R.

Chorlton-on-Medlock.

INIGO JONES.

(Query No. 3,678, November 29.)

[3,686.] In the *Lives of Celebrated Architects, Ancient and Modern*, by Francesco Milizia, published 1826, vol. ii., the following information is to be found:—"Inigo Jones (born 1572, died 1652) was born in London, and received the name of Inigo on account of some Spanish merchants with whom his father was connected in the wool trade standing as his sponsors." The author gives a short account of his travels, and a list of his principal works. A footnote on page 166 says: "Inigo Jones died at Somerset House, 21st of July, 1651, and was interred in the Church of St. Bennett, Paul's Wharf; but his monument was destroyed during the great fire of London." Fergusson, in his *History of Modern Architecture*, vol. iv., 1873, gives the same dates as Milizia. From the *Imperial Dictionary of Biography*, vol. iii., I extract the following: "Jones, Inigo, one of the most famous of English architects, was the son of a cloth-worker in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, London, where he was born in 1572. His father, a Roman Catholic, is believed to have given the child the Spanish form of his own name (Ignatius) out of respect to some connection in Spain." The same work gives the date of his death June, 1653. In Haydn's *Index of Biography* the dates are—born 1572, died 21st July, 1652. In Maunder's *Biographical Treasury*, and Gorton's *Biographical Dictionary*, vol. ii., the same dates are given. Phillips's *Dictionary of Biographical Reference*, 1871, also gives the same dates of birth and death. Valuable information relating to Inigo Jones may be found in the following works: Chalmers (A.), *The General Biographical Dictionary*, 1812-17, 32 vols., 8vo.; Didot, *Nouvelle Biographie Universelle*, ed. by Dr. Hoeffer, 1852-66, 46 vols., 8vo.; Rose (H. J.), *New General Biographical Dictionary*, 1848, 12 vols.; Watt (R.), *Bibliotheca Britannica*, a

General Index to British and Foreign Literature, 1824, four vols., 4to. All the works alluded to in the above mention London as the birthplace of Inigo Jones.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

QUERIES.

[3,687.] LONGSIGHT.—Is there really such a place as Longsight? Is it village, township, or what? What is it bounded by? How did it derive its name?

DANIEL JONES.

[3,688.] NOTCHEL.—What is the derivation of the word "notchel," and how the use of it sprung up? Amongst working people in Lancashire, when a man advertises that he will no more be responsible for any debts his wife may contract, he is said to be "crying his wife notchel."

VULGATE.

LOCH LEVERN TROUT FOR THE UNITED STATES.—The Anchor Line steamer *Furnessia*, which sailed on Sunday from the Clyde, carries to New York 100,000 Loch Levern trout ova for the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries, as a present from Sir James Gibson Maitland from his fishery ponds at Howietoun, near Stirling. Mr. Spencer Baird, the American commissioner, to whom the ova are consigned, proposes to send the eggs when they arrive to the fishing station in Michigan, there to be hatched out for introduction into the great lakes of America.

WHO IS CHIEF OF THE GORDON CLAN?—Lord and Lady Huntley gave a ball to the tenantry on the Aboyne estate last week. In response to the toast of his health, Lord Huntley said: I noticed some speeches on a recent interesting occasion in the north which seemed to claim the chieftainship of the Gordons for a certain noble duke. Personally, I have the greatest dislike to asserting myself, but, on behalf of my family and my clan, I claim to be chief of the Gordons. Succession to estates through a former marriage of an ancestor with the heiress of those lands does not confer upon the present owner the chieftaincy of a clan, especially when there are direct male descendants of the founder of a clan, and one holding, by virtue of his descent, the most ancient titles belonging to a family. Peerages of the reign of Queen Victoria cannot overrule honours, titles, and a chieftaincy nearly six centuries old. A modern Dukedom does not carry the old name for the chief of the Gordons of "Cock of the North," which was, in fact, the designation of the Earls and Marquises of Huntley before Dukes were known in the family. I hold these lands in direct lineal descent from the first Earl of Huntley, who acquired them by his marriage with Lady Jane Keith, heiress of them. I am not on that account going to claim the headship of the Keiths, as, doubtless, I should get into an argument at once with my noble friend Kintore, even if I had any right to it. But since the first Earl acquired these lands they have been held by sixteen representatives of my family.

Saturday, December 20, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(No. 3,685 and others.)

[3,689.] It is not to be supposed that all the people who use the expression "Lay'os for meddlers" to repress juvenile curiosity do know the meaning or derivation of the phrase they employ. In passing from tongue to tongue, and through ear after ear, through many generations words of general application become shorn of their fair proportions, and as language refines through the medium of the schoolmaster, words of self-evident import become, as now, questions for the speculative. I was a little inquisitive body, and heard it often, but if I remember rightly, my father said it to me once when I peered with skirts held back into his mysterious sanctum (a compound of library, studio, and laboratory, where papers, stuck together with paint-bladders and varnish, had possession of the floor), and he said "Lay-holds for meddlers." Then for the first time I had an inkling what was meant by the deterrent words I heard so frequently from others less informed.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

I am surprised that none of your correspondents have suggested the French word "leures" as the origin of layers. As the meaning of the word is snare, enticement, or bait, "layers to catch meddlers" would be simply "baits or snares to catch meddlers," and that is the sense in which the words are usually employed.

J. G. COPE.

Bushell Place, Preston.

MOSES MILLS: HIS ADVENTURE WITH THE KU-KLUX CLAN.

(Nos. 3,663, 3,670, and 3,675.)

[3,690.] As I promised that if the American incident in the career of the "Patriarch" was not forthcoming from some other source I would endeavour to give you a sketch of it, I must try to conform with such promise. I would have preferred, in the interest of your readers, that some abler pen than mine had taken the matter up; though the name of Moses Mills recalls such pleasant recollections to my mind that writing this letter will prove a veritable labour of love.

About the spring of the year 1842 (I will not

guarantee the accuracy of my chronology, as I trust entirely to memory) I was in Liverpool with one Mr. Moses, an intimate friend of mine who has long since joined the great majority, when, to our astonishment, we met Mr. Mills, who was, as we thought, in New York. However, he explained that through a somewhat curious adventure he had obtained "too much popularity for a bashful man," and had in consequence returned to England earlier than he had intended. Over some steaming hot whisky punch, and each with a "churchwarden" filled with excellent tobacco smuggled by the "bashful" Moses, we sat down in the little snug behind the bar of the Pig and Whistle, in Chapel-street, close by St. Nicholas's Church, and there the Old Patriarch spun his yarn in some such words as the following:—

Last Christmas Eve was a memorable one for me. I had left New York by the Buctouche Stage Coach early in the morning for the purpose of reaching by dinner-time the house of Mr. Jeremy Dodson, with whom I had promised to spend a few days. He lived in a pretty little cottage called Casa-Blanca, situated on the outskirts of the village of Pectown, some ten or eleven miles from New York. The snow was falling heavily when we began our journey, and people evidently did not like travelling in such weather, for the only passenger beside myself was a pale-faced, dark-bearded man, well wrapped up in rugs, who occupied one corner of the coach, while I endeavoured to make myself comfortable in another. I only saw the driver for a moment before starting, when he came for the fares and to ask our destinations. I said Pectown, and my travelling companion, in a gruff voice, said "Through to Pine Gulch."

We had gone about six or seven miles on the road when we were startled by a sudden jolt, which threw my companion and myself in a confused heap on the floor of the coach. Upon extricating ourselves we found that a pin had come out and allowed the near fore-wheel to become detached from the axle. Whilst the driver was putting things to rights again I was gathering up my effects, amongst which was a small case of paints and brushes, and a portrait in oil of Mr. Dodson, which required only a touch or two to complete. When my companion noticed the picture he asked if I was a painter, and upon my answering in the affirmative he became very communicative; said that chance had done well for me in letting us meet, that he had been to New York specially to obtain the services of an artist, but it being Christmas time, he could not prevail upon any one of known ability to undertake his business. His wife, he said, had died very suddenly, and he wished to have her portrait painted before she was buried. He further offered me one hundred dollars if I would go on at once with him, saying that Pine Gulch was only five miles beyond Pectown, and that if I would work during the night I might finish by early morning, and he would provide me with horse and guide to enable me to reach my friend's by mid-day. The price being good, and the affair being so romantic and

out of the common, I at last consented to go with him, and we continued our journey, smoking and chatting together in a very pleasant manner.

About two o'clock in the afternoon we reached Pine Gulch, which was simply a few log huts straggling in a thickly-wooded ravine. We left the coach together, and plodded through the snow along a pathway which led in the direction of a hut at the far side of the village, carrying my traps between us. Upon reaching the hut my companion opened the door and we went inside. There were only two rooms, both on the ground floor. We passed from the first to the second, and my companion then obtained a light and lit an enormous candle which stood on a scone in one corner, and I looked around. The room had one window, covered by a heavy shutter strongly barred. There was but little furniture—a chair or two, a small round table, and an old four-post bedstead covered round with blue and white checked curtains in one corner. My companion drew the curtains to one side, and there in almost a sitting position, the head and shoulders being so much raised, lay the corpse of a young and very beautiful woman. I had seldom seen such lovely and regular features; and impatient to transfer them to canvas I undid my case, drew out a prepared canvas, and a set of moist colours, and, placing the table at the foot of the bed, I took a chair and began work.

About five o'clock I and my companion, who had been sitting watching me all the time, went into the other room, where we had some bread and cold meat, washed down by some excellent sherry. We were just finishing our repast when a knock sounded upon the door, and my companion opened it at once. After a few minutes whispering with some one outside, he came to me and said that he must leave me alone for a short time as he was called out on some important business, but that I could continue my work and rely upon his returning before daybreak, in time to attend to my going to Pectown. He then placed in my hands the sum agreed upon for the portrait, opened the door, and disappeared in the blinding snow. I drank one more glass of sherry and went back to my strange work.

It would be about midnight, I had almost finished the picture, when I was aroused by hearing a heavy hammering at the door. I thought it was my employer returning, and threw the door open as soon as I could draw the bolts, when to my utter amazement I was thrown down, my hands and legs tied, and a dozen men advising that I should be hanged up immediately. One, however, who appeared to have some authority, said that I had better be kept until Mr. Carson arrived with the coffin, and that when he had seen my victim he should be allowed to decide my fate. Although there were some dissenting voices this advice eventually prevailed, and I was tied fast to a tree and left to my own reflections. In about half an hour or so a man rode up on horseback, went into the house, and in a few minutes came out again and told me that I was to die in five minutes. I begged that he would tell me what crime I was accused of, when to my horror he said that they had proof that I belonged to the Klu-Klux Clan, a member of which had kidnapped the lady whose corpse was in the hut, and who was the daughter of one of the leading citizens of New York. The lady, he said, had been murdered because she

refused to marry her captor. In conclusion he told me that he was a member of a Vigilance Committee which had undertaken to execute every member of the clan who might fall into its power. I assured him that I was an artist, and if he would only communicate with Mr. Dodson, of Pectown, he could have ample proof of the truth of my statement. I further explained to him how I came into such a position, and reminded him that I was at work when the committee came to the house, as the painting would show. This appeared to move him a little, and after a conference with some others of the band it was decided, as my case was somewhat complicated, that I should be removed to the State Prison at New York, there to be tried in proper fashion before magistrates. I was removed forthwith on horseback under an escort, and only breathed freely when I found myself in gaol.

Of course there was no business done on the Christmas Day, so I had to remain in durance, listening to drunken turnkeys singing ribald songs. On the following day, as soon as the court opened, I was brought up and the charge inquired into, with the result that I was at once restored to freedom, but the papers were full of the "Pine Gulch Tragedy," and every one who had an opportunity came to me for all particulars of my part in the transaction, so that I had no chance of dispelling the memories of that fearful night. I therefore came home, and here I am; and let us have these glasses filled again, please, Miss!

Such, as nearly as I can recollect, was the story as told by the "Patriarch," and it made our hearts glad to shake his hand after it, as we both drank his health in a bumper.

OLD BUCK.

Greenheys.

SOMERVILLE HOUSE, PENDLETON.

(Query No. 3,661, November 15.)

[3,691.] A. B. asks where Summerville House was situated. Somerville is about one mile from St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on the Bolton road, just entering the village of Irlam's-o'-th'-Height. Originally there were two houses, in one of which a Mrs. Prescott lived. They were afterwards made into one, and occupied for about twenty-eight years, until 1883, by one of the Birley family. It is now the residence of the Dean of Manchester. S. B. Pendleton.

["E. B. P." writes similarly, and says the resident before the Dean was Mr. Thomas Hornby Birley.]

PENDLETON COAL MINES.

(Nos. 3,662 and 3,683.)

[3,692.] As long as I can remember anything I can remember the wooden framework over "Fitzgerald's pit" at Higginson Brow, Pendleton. My grandfather Varley held from Fitzgerald a long lease of the land on the opposite side of the narrow lane,

on which stood his bleach and chemical works and his cottage, with a finely cultivated and extensive plot of garden ground and a bleach-field. The vegetable garden sloped in successive terraces (of his own creation) down to a wide brook, where he had planted a line of willows. The cottage was on the crest of the steep hill, the works lay at the foot, and the gate to the latter was almost opposite a gate leading to the pit mouth. My grandfather naturally burned Fitzgerald's coal. It was swift, clear, bright in the burning, and left no residue but an impalpable white ash. We could go thither by two different routes from Pendleton Pole, which was then standing. One way led through Charleston, the other over Cock Robin Bridge, and through a couple of fields much the pleasanter way. How far my grandfather's lease dated back I cannot say, but it is most probable early in the second decade of the present century, and the inference is that the coal-pits were at work then, or the site would have been unsuitable for bleach and chemical works, since fuel for the furnaces and stoves would otherwise have been far to seek. When James Varley retired from business about 1830 he let the works to a Frenchman named Vuldy, who had a very lovely and fascinating wife, and they changed the name of the spot to "Willow Bank."

I visited the old place when last in Manchester, but alas! what a change was there! All the delightful fields and hedgerows were covered with brick and mortar of most unpromising type. "Willow Bank" was unknown. Higginson Brow was the survival. The works and the dear old cottage were both there, but wonderfully altered, and I could see two ragged, torn, and disconsolate willows hanging over a sluggish stream, as if lamenting the days that had been. Cock Robin Bridge, that I had crossed with fear and trembling when a child, not daring to look right or left on the gleaming water lest I should slip off its narrow planks through the wide open rail, had been boarded up; it was safer, but less picturesque. But the old colliery seemed to be still at work, and all around to be grimy and smutty. It was not so when I knew it first; so it is possible that a horse drew coal and colliers to bank in those days. Indeed, I almost think it did. The whole scene was lovely then, wild flowers grew there profusely, but they have gone, and those who knew the place in its beauty are gone or going.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE SATURDAY HALF HOLIDAY.

(No. 3,684 and others.)

[3,693.] I was articled clerk to an attorney in the years 1837—1839. During that time the solicitors established a Friday's half holiday, and I think the bankers and accountants made a similar arrangement. The young men in the great warehouses felt it to be a great hardship that they could not join their brothers and friends in their afternoon's relaxation, and in a year or two afterwards induced Mr. William Marsden and others to exert themselves in order to obtain similar a privilege for them. The employers in the Manchester warehouses said a Friday's half holiday was simply impossible, Friday being post-day for London and the Continent; but made less difficulty as to Saturday when that day was suggested. The clergymen and ministers of the dissenting bodies gave great assistance to the movement, hoping, they said, that if Saturday afternoons were allowed for amusements, the churches and schools would be all the better attended on the Sundays. Still it was a startling change from nine o'clock, or even a later hour than that sometimes on Saturday, to one o'clock or two closing in warehouses.

A few years afterwards some of the same gentlemen, who had so cleverly managed the half-holiday question, interested themselves to secure the formation of public parks. I was one of those employed to canvass for subscriptions. In some cases subscriptions were offered, in one instance a very large one, if the canvassers would positively promise that the parks would be closed on Sundays. We were told, "now that there is the Saturday holidays there is no possible excuse for the desecration of the Sabbath that the opening of public parks would occasion." As we declined to give any such promise we missed some subscriptions, but the Philips family, Sir Robert Peel, and Her Majesty the Queen paid each £1,000, knowing that there was every probability that the Corporation, when the parks were passed over to their custody, would, as a matter of course, allow them to be made use of on that day when it is more important to a trading community that they should be open than on any other day of the week. Queen's Park, the Philips Park, and Peel Park have been of immense advantage to this great district, at the cost in the first instance of only £30,000; and the Saturday half-holiday is firmly fixed as a local institution, and most highly appreciated, thanks, as I believe, to William Marsden above all. F. W. H.

QUERIES.

[3,694.] GREAT STONE, STRETFORD.—Can any correspondent inform me what was the origin of the name of the houses called as above; and also what and when was the stone so placed, and for what purpose? I have heard it was placed there during the Plague. S. W. T.

[3,695.] BERM WOMAN.—What is the meaning of this term? It occurs in Ab o' th' Yate's story, *Old Times and New*, in a sentence beginning "But to Tommy Tootler (that wur th' chap's name) hoo're as common as a berm woman." Messrs. Nodal and Milner's Glossary of the Lancashire Dialect contains "Berm-bo" [ball] and "Berm-yed," but the meaning of the prefix in those words does not seem applicable to "Berm woman."

G. H. H.

[3,696.] PLACE-NAMES IN OLD MANCHESTER.—The following are the names of places in Manchester in or about the year 1320. Could any of your readers help me to identify the exact localities?—Lee Choo or Chow. Mulu Ward Croft. Osecroft, Brand-Orchard, or Wallegrenes. Caoles. Mount-Low. Bernet-ruding. Long-Est. Hawton. Smithy Field. Keper-feld. Taine-croft. White-acres. Adewellhege. Is any view or picture of the old Parsonage in Deansgate known to exist?

ERNEST F. LETTS.

Cathedral.

The Municipal Records of Bath from Richard I. to Elizabeth are being prepared for publication under the editorship of Mr. J. Austin King and Mr. Benjamin V. Watts.

The annual report on the phenological observations for the year 1884 was presented to the last meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society by the Rev. Thomas H. Preston, M.A. The salient features of the weather during the period embraced in this report, namely, October, 1883, to September, 1884, were:—The mild winter, the cold April, the hot August, and the long period of drought, which, at the end of September, began to be seriously felt. The general effects on vegetation have been the prolonged existence of many of the autumn species; the great loss of wall fruit; the failure of bush fruits; the plentiful supply of strawberries as long as they lasted, but the time was short; the good hay harvest, although it was light in quantity; the good corn crop; the unusually plentiful potato crop, and the great abundance of wild fruits.

Saturday, December 27, 1884.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(No. 3,689 and others.)

[3,697.] To my thinking your correspondents have all missed the meaning or true explanation of the above saying. Lay'os I never heard, and layholds is unsatisfactory; the French "*leurres*" still more so, I think the expression explains itself when used as I used to hear it as a child: "Mother, what are you makin'?" I have often said. "Layovers for meddlers, and thou'rt on of 'em," was the answer invariably. At the time I was puzzled and silenced, but afterwards it was plain enough. "Layovers for meddlers" were things laid over, put by, and meddlers like myself were not to meddle with them or ask any more questions. The thing is simple enough and natural enough.

J. B. E.

PLACE NAMES IN OLD MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,696, December 20.)

[3,698.] Muler Croft is probably the Millward Croft described in the *Manchester Mercury* under the date of 1790, January 12:—"To be let, all those several closes or fields at the lower end of Mosley-street, near St. Peter's Church, commonly called or known by the name of the Millward Croft, containing by estimation eight acres of land, now in the holding of William Hartley, butcher, as tenant." The Millward Crofts are referred to in the Court Leet Records of 1611 as having been purchased by Walter Nugent, of Raphh Hulme, gentleman. Again, in 1625, "Henry Keley hath purchased of Mrs. Nugent certain lands called by the name of Milward Croftes."

J. OWEN.

QUOITS IN MANCHESTER AND THE LATE MR. WILLIAM MARSDEN.

(No. 3,684, December 13.)

[3,690.] I notice one of your correspondents, referring to the late Mr. Marsden, speaks of a monument erected to his memory in St. John's Church, in one compartment of which is a representation of a game of quoits. From this I infer that the late gentleman was a proficient at the game. A similar testimonial to a man's memory I think it would be difficult to find, and it is interesting to ascertain the origin of it. The following extracts from memory may throw some light upon the subject. About the

year 1840 the game was very popular here, and at that time the right-hand side of Upper Brook-street, going from town, was not built upon, and was used as a playground. Every fine evening it was thronged with quoiters, and among others whom I recollect attending was the late Mr. Thomas Chappell, apparently Mr. Marsden's partner, or at any rate connected with him in business. The tall muscular form of Mr. Chappell was seldom absent, and he was perhaps the most eager of the players. Is it not probable his partner, Mr. Marsden was one of the party, and perhaps the captain?

F. KENDERDINE.

Old Trafford.

BERM WOMAN.

(Query No. 3,695, December 20.)

[3,700.] This simply means a woman who sells berm, or barm. Such women used to be well-known on the streets of old Lancashire towns; where they went from door to door, crying "Dun yo want ony berm?" and they carried a great can-full of berm with them; and a kind of ladle-measure, to serve it out in penny-worths.

EDWIN WAUGH.

* * *

"Berm" is simply a Lancashire corruption of barm (yeast), and the "berm woman" was a person who went about selling barm. I cannot speak for Lancashire generally, but I know that in Oldham and its neighbourhood there used to be a class of men and women who hawked barm for a living, carrying it in a "burn" can on their head or on their shoulder, and crying out as they proceeded "Berm, fresh berm." This was before the introduction of German yeast into this country, and when every publican brewed, on his own premises, the beer that he sold. The barm was a liquid by-product of these brewings, which was sold by the publicans wholesale to these itinerant berm sellers, who retailed it in the manner I have described. It is at least thirty years since I saw one of these individuals, and I should fancy their occupation has been extinguished or nearly so, by the two causes before referred to, namely, the extensive adoption of brewery beer by publicans, and the importation of German yeast. It will be seen from this explanation of "berm woman," that Messrs. Nodal and Milner are quite correct in their definition of "berm-bo" and "berm yed" in their *Lancashire Glossary*, the former being always understood to mean a pudding or round dumpling made with barm, as distinguished from one made without

that ingredient; whilst "berm-yed" was applied to persons of a confused, or frothy—that is barm-like mind.

E. W.

Didsbury.

THE GREAT STONE, STRETTFORD.

(Query No. 3,694, December 20.)

[3,701.] The following particulars respecting this stone will be found at page 213 of my published work on *Traditions, Superstitions, and Folk-Lore* :—

"The King Arthur legend, which the Rev. John Whitaker locates at Manchester, notwithstanding its relatively modern Norman-French external, still exhibits a strong flavour of the older traditions. According to an episode in the *Morte D'Arthur*, this Saxon champion, Sir Tarquin, or Torquin, was giant enough to conquer and capture three knights in one encounter. Indeed, he is sometimes described as the 'Giant.' There is a tradition yet extant in the neighbourhood, that the said Tarquin threw the large stone, which lies by the roadside near Longford Bridge, from his residence at Knott Mill to its present location, a distance of nearly two miles! The stone really is the pedestal of an ancient cross, similar to many yet to be seen in various parts of Lancashire and Cheshire. It presents, however, the peculiarity of two square mortice-holes for the support of the upright shaft. These, popular tradition says, Tarquin expressly made for the insertion of his thumb and finger when engaged in hurling the ponderous mass as a quoit or plaything. It is likewise said to have been used, at some distant period, as a 'plague-stone,' and that the two holes were filled with vinegar or some other disinfectant. This story is not improbable. The sacred character of such a relic would add to the faith of the neighbouring inhabitants in the efficacy of the means adopted to avoid infection. It is said that provisions were left on or near the stone by the country-people, and that the townsfolk deposited the understood price in one of the holes containing the vinegar, which was believed to render the coins innocuous as plague conductors."

The large double-morticed pedestal near Longford bridge, being situated on the great Roman highway from Manchester to the Streetford of the Mersey, (Stretford,) probably is now all that survives of a very ancient example of the roadside crosses. I know of nothing further concerning it, either of an historic or a legendary character; and shall consequently feel obliged if some of your correspondents can add anything further concerning it.

CHARLES HARDWICK.

Talbot-street, Moss Side.

QUERIES.

[3,702.] MAULDETH.—Whence or how came this name to be applied to the Hall near Heaton Mersey, built by Mr. J. C. Dyer, afterwards the residence of the first Bishop of Manchester, and the late Mr. Callender, M.P., and now the Hospital for Incurables?

ERGO.

[3,703.] PARKIN OR THARCAKE.—Can any of your correspondents throw light upon the origin of what is now called Parkin, but in my youthful days in the country was called Tharcake? Of course I know all about Gunpowder Plot, but I imagine Tharcake must be much older than Gunpowder Plot or even the Houses of Parliament. It could not have been eaten to celebrate the great event, unless it had previously been known and eaten. Its old and, I venture to say, true name, Tharcake, suggests a Scandinavian origin, and sweetcakes offered to the god Thor. I am not sure that this subject has not been already discussed in your columns, but it must be long ago.

J. B. E.

END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME.

Subscription 4/- per Year, Post Free.

PART 22.

ISSUED HALF-YEARLY.

JANUARY TO JUNE, 1885.

"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive."

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

MANCHESTER:
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.
1885.

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EDITED BY J. H. NODAL.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

VOLUME VI.

FOR THE YEARS 1885 AND 1886.

MANCHESTER:
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.

1885-6.

INDEX.

	PAGE		PAGE
Abbey in Greenheys	194, 198	Authorship of <i>Mangnall's Questions</i>	53
Abbots of the Vale Royal	21, 26	" Pamphlet	223, 244
Abduction of Miss Turner	305, 310, 312	" Phrase, "Labore est orare"	11
Ackers Family	39, 112	" Poem	213, 222, 304
Acker's Gate	168, 173, 179, 183	" <i>The Ditty</i>	157, 178, 183
"Adieu," Schubert's Song	267	" Verses.. .. .	29, 31
Adones, Origin of	96	Autocrat, The, of the Local Board	249
"Afraid," Colloquial Use of	77, 84	Aytoun, Roger, and the Drinkwaters	177
Ages of Leading Politicians	8		
Aix-les-Bains and its Baths	246	Bacup, Place-name	177, 183, 194, 198, 202
Albatross, The, at Sea	177	"Bag and Baggage"	120, 124
Alpine Plants, Preservation of	100	Baggin	12, 18, 20, 24, 27
Amazons, A Corps of.. .. .	64	Ballad, Authorship of	35
Amber	97	Ballow, Meaning of	77, 78, 82
America, English Game Birds in	299	Balm of Gilead, Dr. Solomon's	102, 103, 107, 111
American Abbreviations of State Names	296	Baptist Chapel in Granby Row	313, 314
" Cribbs of English Inventions.. .. .	94	Barbers, Notable	209
" Fish in England.. .. .	80	Bard of Colour (Robert Rose)	64, 65, 70
Amusements, English, Foreign View of	224	Bardsley, Canon, Early Days of	236
Anagrams, Gladstone	155, 159	Barfoot Bridge.. .. .	132
Ancient Brasses	256	Baxter Lane	228
" Document Relating to Manchester Old Church	113	Bayley, Samuel	133, 137, 140
" Remains	194	Beaconsfield, Earl of, Mother of.. .. .	174, 178
Anecdote of the Duke of Wellington	108	Bear's Paw, Chowbent	15
Antiquities, Brookesby's Letter on English	251	Beeswing in Port	21
" Roman, Found in Manchester	224, 230	Bell at Lymm	16
Architecture, Lake Country, and Wordsworth	243	Bells, Cost of Church	184
Architects	11	Bennetts, and Gorton Hall	73, 85, 90
Aretic Sea, Colour of.. .. .	255	Bethel's Broadsheet.. .. .	235
Ardwick Green Stumps	233	Bible, The New—a coincidence	61
" Hall	108, 107	Bicycle, On, in Central Asia	240
Arms of Manchester	22, 28	Bicycling Over the Alps and Apennines	160
"Aroint Thee, Witch"	9	Bilbao Iron Ores for England, v. Lapland	305
Artist, A Manchester, in America	47	BIOGRAPHICAL :—	
Ash and the Oak	73	Ackers Family	112
Ashes of a Caesar	71	Bayley, Samuel	133, 137, 140
Asia, In, on a Bicycle	240	Boydell Family	304
Ass, The, and the Country Fellows	255	Bradford, John	38
<i>As Fox Like It</i> , Commentaries on	46, 49	Burns, Robert, and Charles Sharpe of Dumfries	162, 163
" Songs in	72	Eyre Family	131, 141
"Atkins, Tommy," Origin of	56, 62	Grants, of Bury and Manchester	139
Author, A Manchester Shorthand	281, 288, 295	Heblethwayte	203
" of "D'ye ken John Peel"	298	Heginbotham, Ottiwell	124
Authors and Publishers	50	Heyricks, of Manchester	232, 245
Authorship of Ballad.. .. .	35	Heywood Family	72
" Book	292, 294	Horrox, John, of Liverpool	155
" <i>Castle of Beeston</i>	83	Hough, Henry, engraver	292
" "Curfew shall not Ring To-night"	276, 282	Howard, Henry	96, 98, 105
" <i>Farmer's Boy</i>	29, 30, 34	Hulse, artist	29, 37
" History of John Reilly	38, 40, 41	Hunts, of Newtown, Collyhurst	292
" " It's Time to be Jogging Away," Old Song	76	Irlam Family	266, 275, 287
" <i>Lancashire Bob</i>	213	Kynastons, of Shropshire	98, 100
" <i>Legends of Lancashire</i>	38, 39	Lawton Family	72
" Lines .. 4, 8, 38, 40, 80, 84, 106, 146, 235, 239, 247, 249, 262	263, 276	Lovell, George	146, 148
" Lines on Ebenezer Elliott	61, 62	Mather Family	285
		Miller, Thomas	56, 5

	PAGE		PAGE
BIOGRAPHICAL:—		Cesar, Ashes of	71
Monmouth, Duke of	150, 151	"Calling a Spade a Spade," Origin of	298, 303
Mowatt, Mrs.	194, 199, 201	Camel and the Horse	29, 31, 34
Musgrave, artist	53	" The Black	154, 161
Nicholsons, of Poulton-le-Sands	76	Canal, Bridgewater	231, 232, 233
Peploe, Samuel	209, 222	" Tunnel, The Longest	85
Poole, of Manchester and Bowdon	152	Cannon-street	141, 143, 145, 149, 154, 156, 159
Radziwell, Prince William	146	Canon Bardsley, Early Days of	236
Reilly, John	38, 40, 41, 61	Cantoris and Decani	108, 111
Rider Family	61, 63, 69	Capital, English, in India	112
Ridings, Elijah	233, 234, 237	"Care Will Kill a Cat"	164
Robson	180	Carlyle and Macaulay	32
Rochdale, Thomas	159	" Memorial to	170
Rose, Robert, Bard of Colour	64, 65, 70, 74	" The "Ghyow" of Mrs.	3
Schofields, of Stakehill	195, 202, 206	Carrington Hall	119
Shaw, Col., and his Oldham Ancestors	80, 81	Case, Rev. Thomas	245
Sorocold, Thomas, M.A., of Manchester	271	Castlefield, Giant's Basin at	125, 127, 129
Sunderland, Mrs.	99, 100	Castle of Beeston	83
Twyford, Josiah, clockmaker	280, 283	Castles in Middle Ages	240
Whitney Family	287	Cater-cornered	51
Whitworth, Henry, publisher	294	Cathedral, Structure Near	60, 62, 64
Wilson, Rae	159	Cegydog	65
Wolfenden, Mathematician	30	Cellar Tenancy in 1718	81
Wood, Shakspeare, sculptor	170, 171	Chair, The Pen-Davis	270
Worsley Family	136	Chambermaid and Poet	180
Worthington, of Manchester	130, 133, 139	Chancery Lane, Ardwick	146
Birds, Sacrifice of, to Fashion	88	Cheetham and Cheetham Hill	284, 289, 295, 297, 298
Bishop of Manchester (late), Episcopal Addresses of	128	Cheetwood, Its Lord, History, and Park	109
Black Camel, The	154, 161	Cheshire, Field-names in	116
Blackpool from Manchester, By Road	102, 103	" Haunted Hall in	35
Blakestake	163, 164, 167	" Memento of Old Military Assessment Law	95
Bobbin, Tim, Lines of	275, 278	" Taxation and Dairy Produce	143
Bolton to Preston, By Road	223, 226	" Words "Hee," "Heys," and "Ees" in, 112, 115, 122, 144, 148	
Book, Authorship of	292, 294	Chester, Old High Road to, from Manchester	112, 116
" Common-place	3	Chess Club, Manchester, Reminiscences of	101, 106
Books, Common-place	288, 290	" Players and Huxley	164, 167
" of the Bible, Verses on	295, 297	Chetham College Curiosities	300, 303, 308, 309, 312
Booth Family, of Salford	245	Children, Mother of Thirty-nine	250
" Humphrey, Salford Residence of	96, 98	Chinese Etiquette and English Police Courts	313
Boots, Cromwell's, at Chetham College	284, 287, 289, 295, 296, 299	" Science and School Books for	80
Boulder in Chorlton-on-Medlock	16	Chocolates v. Browning	190
Boydell Family	304	Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Churchyard at	223
Bradford John, Birthplace of	38	Chorlton-on-Medlock, Boulder in	16
Bradshaw Hall	235, 242, 243	Chronicle, Saxon	73
Brasses, Ancient	256	Church Bellringers' Orders	249
Bread v. Drink	160	" Bella, Cost of	184
Breeding, Late	275, 278	" Disestablished Irish	99
Brides and Bridegrooms, Illiterate	77	Churchwardens and Sidesmen	223, 226
Bridge, Doctor White's	184, 186, 191	Churchyard at Chorlton-cum-Hardy	223
Bridgewater Canal	231, 232, 233	City, Freedom of	89, 96
"Brief"	50	Claret, Bad Year for	154
Brine Baths of Nantwich	65, 74	Clarke, Henry, Author of the <i>School Candidates</i>	83, 86
British Capital in South Africa	21	Climate, Irish	38
Brokesby's Letter on English Antiquities and Natural History	251	Clock Alley	97, 103
Brontë, Charlotte, Mementoes of	184	Clockmaker, A Stockport	266
Brothers Grant	157, 161	Clowe Gilofre	261
Bryony and Thynewood	259, 268, 269, 275, 276, 279, 286, 289	Clowes Family	21, 26
Buffalo, Probable Extinction of	280	Coachman of Old School	45
"Bull and Punch Bowl," Old Trafford	4, 6	Cobbett's <i>Political Register</i>	192, 194, 198
Buckstone Brigands	174, 186, 233	Cobbler, A Canny Scotch	123
Burnley, Owner of Estates near	316	Cobham, Eleanor, Duchess of Gloucester	66, 69, 71
Burns, Robert, Epitaph by	21	Cockade, The	299, 314
Burnside	318	Cock Crowing at Night	30
Bury Hunt, The	58, 64, 93, 96	Cockerham	139
Busking	51	Cockfighting	313, 314, 316
Butter-shive, Thumb	4, 6	Cock Tavern	55
Buxton, Cycle Route to	270, 275	" and Izaak Walton	228
Byrons and Saddleworth	300	Codnor Castle	270, 282

INDEX.

V.

	PAGE		PAGE
Coinage, Silver	188, 209	Didsbury Parish Church, Inscription on Tower	54, 59, 64
Cold Weather, Recent	195	Directories, Oldham	141
Collyhurst	196, 212, 222, 227	Dobcross Church	188
Colour of the Arctic Sea	255	Document, Oldest English, with a Date	318
„ Bard of (Robert Rose)	64, 65, 70	Dogs, Isle of	12, 20
Columbus, A Corsican	209	Dolefield	256, 258
Common-place Book, A	3	Downing Street, Ardwick	146
„ „ Books	288, 290	Drink v. Bread	160
Conduit, The Manchester	192, 194	Drinkwaters, and Roger Aytoun	177
Confession of Marie Louise, Strange	116	Druids, Order of	309
Consumption of Tea, Increased	5	Drunkards, Habitual, Curious Facts about	93
Conversation, Dean Swift on	231	Drummond, Professor, Book by	299, 302
Cooke's Amphitheatre	116	Duchess of Gloucester, Eleanor Cobham	66, 69, 71
Corns and the Weather	318	Dukeries, Through, to Lincoln	240
Cornwall, Duchy of, and Prince of Wales	47	Duke's and Church Fields and Robber's Cave	102, 104, 107, 111, 114
Correctors of the Press	163	Dumas', Alex., Historical Novels	309, 310, 312, 315
Corticus and Ship Money in Lancashire	168, 180	Durham, Earls of, and Lambton Legend	33
Cottage Industries in Ireland	127	„D'ye ken John Peel," Author of	296
Cotton Famine and Lord Halifax	94	Dynamo, The Largest	247
„ Manufacture, Chronological History of (Part II.)	68		
Country Fellows and the Ass	255	Eccentrics, Lives of	56, 59
Coursing, "Teme" in	32, 34	Eccles, J. E., artist	50
Court Lost Records of Manchester	66	Editorial "We"	284, 287
Courts, Manor	19, 26	Eggs of Swans	274
Cradle, Silver, Origin of	60, 64	Eighteenth Century Incidents	142
Cromwell, Work on	162	Election Party Colours	120, 126, 127
Cromwell's Boots	284, 287, 289, 295, 296, 299	Elliot, George	164, 167
Cronebane Halfpenny	188, 191	„ „ and Charles Dickens	3
Crossing of Wheat and Rye	262	„ „ on Women's Work	108
Crows as Planters of Trees	245	Elizabeth, Queen, and Lancashire	235
Crusoe's Island	207	Elliott, Ebenezer, Lines on	61, 62
„Curfew Shall Not Ring To-night," Authorship of	276	Emblem, Turkish	19, 20
Curious Deeds about Church Seats	300	Emigration from Ireland in 1835	192
„ Facts about Habitual Drunkards	93	Emmet, Robert	243
„ Belic of Peterloo Massacre	77, 82	England, First Grammar in	275, 279, 283, 287
CUSTOMS:—		English Amusements, Foreign View of	224
Mischief Night	130, 132, 140	„ Capital in India	112
Rosemary in Police Docks	80, 82	„ Document, The Oldest, with a Date	318
Silver Cradle	60, 64	„ Game Birds in America	299
Taking Shots	152	„ Police Courts and Chinese Etiquette	313
CYCLING ROUTES:—		English Wild Flowers, Names of	276, 286, 289
To Buxton	270, 275	English v. French Workpeople	29
To Lincoln and High Wycombe	51, 52	English v. German	304, 308
To London	98, 99	Engraving	8
Manchester to Nottingham	89, 93	Episcopal Addresses of the late Bishop of Manchester	128
North Wales	235, 239	Epitaph by Robert Burns	21
South Scotland	255	Evans, Richard	197
To Worksop	228, 231	Execution of James Leyburn	83, 86
To Yorkshire	250, 254, 267	Exhibition and Show, Difference Between	270
		Express Trains	16
Daguerreotype Discovery	210	Eyre Family	131, 140
Dairy Produce and Cheshire Produce	143		
Deanagate Deed, An Old	150	„ Fall" of Land	154, 157
„ Old Parsonage in	9	Farmer's Boy, Author of	29, 30, 34
Decani and Cantoris	108, 111	Farmers, What Should They Do?	32
Deed, An Old Manchester	36, 47, 51	„Fear," Colloquial Use of	77, 84
Delfy, The, Author of	157, 178, 183	Fees in Westminster Abbey	296
Derbyshire, Leadminers' Rights in	72, 75	Ferns, Tropical, in Weaving Shed	60
„ Sir Watkin W. Wynn at School in	53	Field Names in Cheshire	116
Devonshire, A Tour in	246	Fifteenth Century, Two Letters of	265
DIALECT:—		Figuring, How the Present System Grew in England	293
„Hee," „Hoya," „Ees," in Cheshire	112, 115, 122, 144, 148	Finest Counts of Yarn	73
Knowl or Knoll	235, 244	Fire Drawing	108, 111
Lancashire Dialect	144	First Manchester Volunteers, Officers in 1859	36
Quishingrave	110, 115	Fish, American, in England	80
Blood = a Cart But	189	Fisher Preston, Clockmaker	243
Dickens, Charles, and George Elliot	3		

	PAGE		PAGE
Flat-iron Market	51, 55	Heyrick, Warden	245
Flowers, English Wild, Names of	289	Heyricks of Manchester	232, 245
Fordyce and Swedenborg	65	Heywood Family	72
Foreign View of English Amusement	224	High Wycombe, Cycling Tour to	51, 52
<i>Foundling of the Fens</i>	275, 282	Hi Long Vi Tong!	19, 26
Fowls, Trespass of	233	"H" in Shakspeare	21, 22, 30
Fox-fire	4, 5, 9, 13, 18, 32	Historical Home, An	131
France, Population of	313	" Novels of Alex. Dumas	309, 312, 315
" Irish in	194, 198	Holland, Gulix	162, 209
" Working Woman in	119	Homer: Was He Colour Blind?	270, 273
Freedom of a City	89, 96	" Honour Bright," Origin of	72
French v. English Workpeople	29	Hood and Rae Wilson	159
Friends, Longevity in the Society of	160	Hope-Carr Hall, near Leigh	277
Fruit, Growth of, by Day and Night	203	Hornby Castle	70, 71, 74, 81, 84, 86, 88, 91
		Horrox, Jonas, of Liverpool	155
Game Birds, English, in America	299	Horse and the Camel	29, 31, 34
Gates of Strangeways Hall	262, 263	" Shoe at the "Seven Stars"	312
Genealogical Tables of Sovereigns	40, 41, 43	" Trial	123
Gentleman's Magazine, Gleanings from	247	Hotel and Inn	110
George Elliot, Pronunciation of	164, 167	Hough End Hall	102
German v. English	304, 308	" Henry, engraver	292
Germans; How they Undersell us	311	Howard, Henry	96, 98, 105
" Ghyouw," Mrs. Carlyle's	3	Huguenot Society in London	53
Giants' Basin, Castlefield	125, 127, 129, 140	Hulme Hall and Robbers' Cave	102, 104, 107, 111, 114
Gibraltar, Siege of, and Manchester Volunteers	159, 162, 163, 165	Hulse, Artist	29, 37
Glaciation	292	Hunts, of Newtown, Collyhurst	292
Gladstone Anagrams	155, 159	Hurdy-Gurdy Players, Last of	147
Gloucester, Duchess of	66, 69, 71	Huxley and the Chess Players	164, 167
Goose, Mother	248		
Gorton Hall and the Bennetts	73, 85, 90	IDIOMS AND SAYINGS:—	
" Pink Bank, Cottages in	40	" Aroint Thee, Witch "	9
Grammar, the First, in England	275, 279, 283, 287	" Bucking "	51
Granby Row, Baptist Chapel in	313, 314	" Hedge Lawyer "	43, 44
Grant Brothers, The	157, 161	" Honour Bright "	72
Grants of Bury and Manchester	139	" Laborare est Orare "	17
Grave, A, and Rose Garden	100	Old Saying	89
" and Inscription in Mr. Phillips' Ground	99	Illiterate Brides and Bridegrooms	77
" of William Penn	262	Inchdalrne	146, 147, 154, 156
Graves in Private Grounds	35, 40, 42, 44	Incidents, Eighteenth Century	142
Great Stone Farm, Stretford	1, 4, 7, 10, 14, 16, 17	India, English Capital in	112
Greenheys, Abbey in	194, 198	Indian Amazons, Offer of a Corps of	64
Greenhill, Mrs.	250	" Names, Meaning of	231
" Grundya, No Good "	292, 296, 298	Inn and Hotel	110
Guide, An Early Railway	77	Inscription in Mr. Phillips' Ground	99
" The First Railway	3, 6	" in Poynton Churchyard	292
Gulix Holland	162, 207	" in Reather-street Methodist Chapel	16, 20, 28
		" on Tower of Didsbury Church	54, 56, 64
Halifax, Lord, and the Cotton Famine	94	Inventions, English, American Cribes of	94
Half-Holiday, Saturday	222	Ireland, Tourist's View of	135
Halfpenny, Cronebane	188, 191	" Climate of	38
Hall, Dr. Spencer	87	" Cottage Industries in	127
Hanging Ditch	103, 108, 112, 115, 117, 122, 123	" Emigration from, in 1885	192
Hardman Street	119, 122	Irish Church, The Disestablished	99
Haunted Halls in Lancashire and Cheshire	35	" The, in France	194, 196
Hawk, Crows, and Lark	152	Irlam Family	266, 275
Health, Effect of Sensational Literature on	68	" Hall	255
Hearing, Tests for	5	" Methodism in	292
Heblethwayte	203	Iron-founders, Manchester	164, 173
Hedgehog, The	164, 167	Ile of Dogs, The	12, 20
Hedge Lawyer	43, 44		
" Hee," " Heys," and " Ees " in Cheshire	112, 115, 122, 144, 148	Jewish and Welsh Names	304
Heginbotham, Ottiwell	124	Jews in Russia	192
Heights Above Sea Level	102, 105, 106, 111, 115	Johnson, Dr., as a Schoolmaster	150
Heine, Poem by	250	" James, and Littleborough	228
Henshaw's Blind Asylum, Old Trafford	11, 14, 18, 25	Jubilee Statistics	257
Herbert, George, and James Shirley	276, 279		
Herbs in Police Dock	80, 82		

	PAGE
Kirkby Lonsdale Church	296
Knights Templars in Lancashire.. .. .	87
Knobsticks and Strikes	123, 145
Knowl or Knoll	235, 244
Kynastons of Shropshire	96, 100
"Laborare est Orare"	17
Lake Country Architecture and Wordsworth	243
Lambton Legend and the Earls of Durham	33
Lamp-light Problem	259, 264, 267
" " Another	284
Lancashire and Queen Elizabeth.. .. .	235
" Bob, The Authorship of	213
" Dialect	144
" Families	304
" Haunted Halls.. .. .	35
" History of	304
" Knights Templars	87
" Legends	38, 39
" New Map	68
" Norman Remains	56
" North, Walking Tour	89
" Regiment	237
" Seng, Old	231
" Walking Tour	247, 249
Land, "Fall" of	154, 157
" Value of, near St. Anne's Square	94
Lapland v. Bilbao Iron Ores for England	305
Lawton Family	72
Lawyer, Hedge.. .. .	43, 44
Layers for Meddlers	1, 5, 10
Lead Miners' Rights in Derbyshire	72, 75
Leather and Tanning Terms	152, 162
Leatherty Petch	11, 13
Ledger of a Manchester Shoemaker	174
Leek, Sunset Phenomena at	88
Letters, two, of Fifteenth Century	285
Lescart, Manon, Story of	288, 289
Lever Street, Manchester	233, 234
Leyburn, James, Execution of	83, 86
"Liberal," Origin of	133
Liberty of the Press, Mr. Sala on the	5
Lincoln, Cycling Tour to	51, 52
" to, Through the Dukeries	240
Lines, Authorship of	235, 239, 247, 249, 262, 263, 276
Lion Killer, a Famous	313
Littleborough and James Johnson	228
Lloyd, Buchan, and Welsh.. .. .	11
Local Board, the Autocrat of	249
London, Cycling Routes to.. .. .	96, 98
" Huguenot Society in	53
" Memorial Tablets in	254
Longest Canal Tunnel	85
Longevity in the Society of Friends	180
Longford Bridge	128, 129
Longsight, Roadside Stone at	40, 41
Lovell, George	146, 148
"Lovely Kate"	99
Lymm, Bell at	16
Macanlay and Carlyle	32
MANCHESTER:—	
Abbey in Greenheys	194, 198
Acker's Gate	168, 173, 179, 183
Ardwick Green Stumps	233
" Hall	106, 107

MANCHESTER:—

	PAGE
Arms of	22, 23
Baptist Chapel in Granby Row	313, 314
Blakestake	163, 164, 167
Boulder in Choriton-on-Medlock	16
"Bull and Punch Bowl," Old Trafford	4, 6
Cannon-street	141, 143, 145, 149, 154, 156, 159
Chancery Lane, Ardwick	146
Cheetham and Cheetham Hill	284, 289, 295, 297, 298
Cheetham; its Lord, History, and Public Park	109
Cheetham College Curiosities	300, 303, 308, 309, 312
Clock Alley.. .. .	97, 103
Collyhurst	196
Cooke's Amphitheatre	116
Dolefield	256, 258
Downing-street, Ardwick	146
Duke's and Church Fields and Robber's Cave	102, 104, 107, 111, 114
Episcopal Addresses of the late Bishop of Manchester	128
First Manchester Daily Paper	99
" Manchester Volunteers, Officers of, in 1859	36
Flat-iron Market	51, 55
Giant's Basin, The, Castlefield	125, 127, 129, 140
Gorton Hall and the Bennetts	73
Grants of	139
Hanging Ditch	103, 108, 112, 115, 117, 122, 123
Hardman-street	119, 122
Henshaw's Asylum, Old Trafford	11
Horse Shoe at the "Seven Stars"	312
Inscription in Reather-street Methodist Chapel	16
Longford Bridge	128, 129
Manchester and the River Spolden	89
" Artist in America	46
" Baxter Lane in	228
" Cathedral, Structure near	60, 62, 64
" Cellar Tenancy in 1718	81
" Character	196
" Chess Club, Reminiscences of	101, 106
" Conduit	192, 194
" Deeds, Old	38, 47, 51
" " Millgate	56
" " Percival Family	39
" Free Library, Gift of Play Bills to.. .. .	253, 254
" Heyricks of	232
" Highest part of	199
" in 1600	168
" Ironfounders	164, 173
" Maps of Old	116
" Markets, Last Century	1
" Men and the Scotch Rebels of 1745	233
" Mercury	16, 18
" Newspapers, Old	133, 137, 146, 189, 196
" Old Church, Ancient Document Relating thereto	113, 121, 124, 125
" Old Sardinian Theatre in	299, 302
" Organ Builders	212
" Patent Theatre in	46, 50
" Radical "Pepper Boxes"	235, 237
" Roman Antiquities Found in	224, 230
" Ship Canal Journal, 45 years ago	193
" Shoemaker, Ledger of a	174, 180
" Shorthand Author	281, 288, 296
" Spurious History of	41
" Street Lore: Garden-street, Back Garden-street,	
Well-street, and Coldhouse, 229, 232, 238	
Lever-street	233, 244
" Subsoil Round	256
" Thomas Scoresfield, M.A., of	271

	PAGE		PAGE
MANCHESTER:—		Names, Welsh and Jewish	304
Manchester Three Hundred Years Ago (Court Leet Records) ..	66	Nangpeave-street, Manchester	123, 139
" to Blackpool and Southport by Road	102, 103	Nantwich Brine Baths, The	65, 74
" to Chester, Old High Road from	112, 116	Natural History, Brookesby's Letter on English	251
" to John o' Groat's, Cycling Route	168	Newby, Thomas, Artist	50
" to Monmouth by Road	76, 78	Newbys, Arms of the	44, 45
" to Nottingham, Cycling Route	89, 93	Newspapers, Old Manchester	133, 137, 146, 189, 195
" Townsend, R.S., of	244	New Words	61
" Union Mill in	296	" Zealand, Time in	19, 20, 23, 28
" Wesleyan Preaching Places—Last Century	146	Nicholsons of Poulton-le-Sands	76
" Worsley Family, connection with	136, 143	Nobstick	123, 145
" Worthington Family of	130, 133, 140	"No Good Grundys"	292, 296, 298
" Volunteers and Siege of Gibraltar	159, 162, 163, 165	Norman Remains in Lancashire	56
" Miles Platting, Origin of Name of	249	Norris Papers, The	261
" Nangpeave Street	123, 139	North Wales, Cycling Route in	235, 239
Old Deansgate Deed	150	Nottingham from Manchester, Cycling Route	89, 93
" Manchester Players	70	Novels, Historical, of Dumas	309, 312, 315
" Parsonage in Deansgate	9		
Peterloo Massacre, Curious Relics of	77, 82, 84, 97, 100	Oak and the Ash	73
Pink Bank Cottages, Gorton	40	Oddities, Marriages of	203
Pretender, The, and the Church Bells	46, 49	Old Deansgate Deed	150
Regent Road Bridge	53, 55	" Church, Manchester	113, 121, 124, 126
Roadside Stone at Longsight	40, 41	Oldest English Document with a Date	318
St. Anne's Church	40, 42	OLD HALLS:—	
Scroveshill	106	Ardwick Hall	106, 107
Stretford Stone	1, 4, 7, 10	Bradshaw Hall	235, 242, 243
Value of Land in St. Anne's Square in 1792	94	Carrington Hall	119
Volunteer Engineers in Manchester	85, 87	Codnor Castle	270, 282
Mangnall's Questions, Author of	53	Gorton Hall and the Bennetts	73
Manon Lescaut, Story of	288, 289	Hope Carr Hall, near Leigh	277
Manor Courts	19, 26	Hough End Hall	102
Manure = Worthing	110	Hulme Hall	102, 104, 107, 111, 114
Manx Society's Publications	99	Irlam Hall	255
Marie Louise, Strange Confession of	116	Marton Hall	235
Markets, Manchester, in the Last Century	1	Monkes Hall	288
Marriages of Oddities	203	Morleys Hall, Astley	190
Marton Hall	235	Ordsal Hall	255, 258
Masheknappe	127	Shaw Hall	119
Massage	56, 59, 61, 303	Stanniccliffe Hall	203, 208, 212
Mather Family	286	Timperley Hall	296
Mauldeth	1	Urmston Hall	119
Meddlers, Layers for	1, 5, 10	Oldham Directories	141
Memorial Tablets in London	254	Old Lancashire Song	231
Mersey Hotel and Ferry at Widnes	97	" Manchester Newspapers	133, 137, 146, 189, 195
" The, from Cheadle to Flixton	298, 303, 306	" Players	70
Methodism in Irlam	292	" Military Assessment Law, Cheshire Memento of	96
" Primitive, Founder of	152	" " " Salford "	90
Miles Platting, Origin of Name of	249	" Parsonage, Deansgate	9
Military Assessment Law, Old, Cheshire Memento of	96	" Rule of the, in Europe	141, 190
Military Assessment Law, Old, Salford, Memento of	90	" Sardinian Theatre	299
Miller, Thomas	56, 57	" Saying	89
Mineral, New	254	" Song—"It's Time to be Jogging Away"	76
Mischief Night	130, 132, 140	" Stone Pathways in the North Riding	102
Moffat, Portrait of Dr.	51	Order of the Druids	309, 310
Mohammedan Year, The	46	Ordsal Hall	255, 258
Monkes Hall	288	Organ Builders, Manchester	212
Monkey Puzzle in Bloom	102	ORIGIN OF:—	
Monmouth, Duke of	150, 151	Adolnes	96
" from Manchester by Road	76, 78	Baggin	12, 18, 20, 24, 27
Morleys Hall, Astley	190	Ballow	77, 78
Moss, New Use for	43	Hedge Lawyer	43
Mother Goose	248	Honour Bright	72
Mother of Thirty-nine Children	250	Liberal	133
Mowatt, Mrs., Actress	194, 199, 201	Miles Platting	249
Musgrave, Artist	53	Randolphus	19, 20
Mynshulls and Spanking Roger	153, 156, 163, 173	Rosemary in Police Docks	80, 82

INDEX.

ix.

ORDER OF:—	PAGE		PAGE
Silver Cradle	80, 84	Quilshingrave	111, 115
"Somebody's Darling"	203	Quotation, The Premier's	243
Strike	127		
Tommy Atkins	56, 62	Radical Pepper Boxes, The	235, 237
Upset the Apple Cart	309	Radziwell, Prince William	146
Owner of Estates near Burnley	316	Raleigh's Pipe	143
		Railway Days, Relic of Early	128
		" from Reddish to Romiley	16, 17
		" Guide, An Early	77
		" " The First	3, 6
Paddle Wheels, Invention of	261, 265	Randolphus	19, 20
Pamphlet, Authorship of	223, 244	Regent Road Bridge	53, 56
Pan	213, 222	Register, Cobbett's	192, 194, 198
Paper, First Manchester Daily	99	Registers, Parish	303
" Made out of Tobacco Waste	296	Reilly, John, History of	38, 40, 41, 61
Papers, The Norris	261	Reather-street Chapel, Inscription in	16, 20, 28
Parish Registers	303	Regrating	5, 7
" Sexton	5	Rider Family	61, 63, 69
Parkin, or Tharcake	4, 6, 11	Ridings, Elijah	233, 234, 237
Parsonage, Old, in Deansgate	9	Ringers' Orders	249
Party Colours at Elections	120, 126, 127	River Spolden and Manchester	89
Paston Letters, The	197, 200, 204, 208	Roads and Routes	259
Patent Theatre, Manchester	46, 50	Roadside Stone in Longsight	40, 41
Patents	150	Robert Burns, Epitaph by	21
Peer's Name, Right Spelling of	139, 190	Robinson Crusoe's Island	207
Penn-Davis Chair	270	Robson	180
Penn, William, Grave of	262	Rochdale, Thomas	159
People, Savings of the	228	Roman Antiquities Found in Manchester	224, 230
Peploe, Samuel (Warden)	209, 222	Rose Garden and a Grave	100
Pepper Boxes, The Radical	235, 237	" Robert, the Bard of Colour	64, 65, 70, 74
Percival Family, The	39	Rosemary in Police Docks	80, 82
Peterloo, Curious Relics of	77, 82, 84, 97, 100	Rowlandson	146, 153
Pipe, Raleigh's	143	Rule of the Old in Europe	141, 190
Place-name, Bacup	177, 183, 194, 198, 202	Ruskin on His Illnesses	259
Plant, A Travelling	3	Ruskin's Hand-Made Woollen Goods	164
Plantagenets, The	56, 60	Russia, Jews in	192
Planters of Trees, Crows as	24	" Women in	38
Plants, Alpine, Preservation of	100	Ruy Blas	184, 186
Playbills, Gift of, to Manchester Free Library	253, 254	Rye and Wheat, Crossing of	262
Players, Old Manchester	70		
Poem, Authorship of	213, 222, 304	Sacrifice of Birds to Women's Fashions	88
" by Helne, A	250	Saddleworth and its Woollen Manufactures	262, 263
Poet and the Chambermaid	180	" Church	73
Posts and Bryony	279	" The Byrons and	300
Polecat in Saddleworth	193, 198	" The Pole-Cat in	193, 198
Police Courts, English and Chinese Etiquette in	303	" Yeoman's Household Goods, Inventory of, 1717	228, 232, 234, 237, 242
" Dock, Rosemary in	80, 82	Saint Anne's Church, Manchester	40, 42
Political Register, Cobbett's	192, 194, 198	Sala, Mr., on the Liberty of the Press	5
Politicians, Ages of Leading	8	Salford, Booth Family of	245
Pools, of Manchester and Bowdon	152	" Founder of Trinity Church in	132, 136, 142, 153, 158, 160, 165, 210, 226, 241, 256
"Poor Richard"	78	" Memento of Old Military Assessment Law	90
Population of France	313	" Residence of Humphrey Booth	96, 98
Port, Beeswing in	21	Salmon, Destruction of, by Otters	150
Poulton-le-Sands, The Nicholsons of	76	Sardinian Theatre, The Old	299, 302
Poynton Churchyard, Inscription in	292	Saturday Half-Holiday	222
Premier's Quotation, The	243	Savings of the People	228
Press Correctors	163	Saxon Chronicle, The	73
" Liberty of the, Mr. Sala on	5	SAYINGS AND IDIOMS:—	
Preston from Bolton by Road	223, 226	" Aroint Thee, Witch"	9
Pretender, The, and the Church Bells	46, 49	" Bag and Baggage"	124
Primitive Methodism, Founder of	152	Black Camel	154, 161
Prince of Wales and the Duchy of Cornwall	47	Busking	51
Private Grounds, Graves in	35, 40, 42, 44	" Calling a Spade a Spade"	298, 303
Problem, A Lamplight	259, 264, 267	" Care will Kill a Cat"	164
" " Another	284		
"Proud Preston"	311		
Publishers and Authors	50		
Pynets—Pikelets	33, 37, 42		

	PAGE		PAGE
SAYINGS AND IDIOMS :—		Steam on Tramways..	3
Hedge Lawyer ..	43, 44	Stockport Clockmaker, A ..	206
"Honour Bright" ..	72	Stone Pathway, Old, in the North Riding ..	102
"Laborare est orare" ..	17	" the great Plague at Stretford ..	1, 4, 7, 10, 14, 18, 17
"No Good Grundys" ..	292, 296, 298	Strangeways Hall, Gates of ..	262, 263
Old Saying ..	89	Strikes and "Knobsticks" ..	123, 127
Ship-shape ..	143, 149	St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, and John Wesley ..	300, 311, 315, 316
Slood—a Cart Rut ..	188	Structure near Cathedral, Manchester ..	66, 62, 64
Strikes and Knobsticks..	123, 146	Subsoil round Manchester ..	256
"Upset the Apple Cart" ..	309	Sunderland, Mrs. ..	99, 100
Schofields of Stakehill ..	195, 202, 204	Sunset Phenomena at Leek ..	88
School and Science Books for the Chinese ..	80	Swan Upping ..	283
Schubert's Song "Adieu, or the Last Greeting" ..	267	Swans' Eggs ..	274
Scotch Rebels of 1746 and Manchester Men ..	233	Swedenborg and Fordyce ..	66
Scotland, South, Cycling in ..	255	Swift, Dean, on Conversation ..	231
Scroweshill ..	108		
Sea-gulls and Sprats ..	40	Tabler ..	26
Sea-level, Heights above ..	102, 105, 106, 111, 115	Tablets, Memorial, in London ..	254
Sensational Literature, its Effect on Health ..	68	Taking Shots ..	152
Seven Stars, Horse Shoe at ..	312	Tanning and Leather Terms ..	152, 162
Seventeenth Century Wills..	248	Tavern Signs : Bull and Punch Bowl, Old Trafford..	4, 6
Sexton, The Parish ..	5	Tea, Consumption of..	246
Shadow Moss ..	292, 296	" " Increased ..	5
Shakspere, Female Characters of..	303	Telegraph Wires and Thunderstorms ..	213, 222
" Letter "H" in ..	21, 22, 30	" Wolves Frightened by the ..	163
" Life of ..	231	"Teme" in Coursing..	32, 34
SHAKSPEREANA :—		Temperance Discussion, The First ..	120
"Around Thee, Witch" ..	9	Tennysoniana ..	100
"As You Like It," Commentaries on ..	46, 49	Tests for Hearing ..	6
" " Songs in ..	72	Theatre, The Old Sardinian ..	299, 302
Shakspere Wood ..	4, 6, 10, 13, 17	Tharcake, or Parkin ..	4, 6, 11
Sharpe, Charles (Dumfries), and Robt. Burns ..	162, 163	"Thousand Notable Things," Author of ..	292, 294
Shaw, Col., and his Oldham Ancestors ..	80, 81	Thumb Butter Shive..	4, 6
" Hall ..	119	Thunderstorms and Telegraph Wires ..	213, 222
Ship Canal Journal 45 Years Ago..	193	Thynewood and Bryony ..	259, 268, 269, 275, 279, 283, 289
" Money and Corticus in Lancashire ..	168, 180	Time in New Zealand ..	19, 20, 23, 26
" Shape ..	143, 149	Timperley Hall..	296
Shires ..	296	Tobacco Waste, Making Paper out of ..	296
Shirley, James, and George Herbert ..	276, 279	"Tommy Atkins," Origin of ..	56, 62
Shive, Thumb Butter ..	4, 6	Tottle Bank ..	254
Shoemaker, Ledger of a Manchester ..	174, 180	Tour, A Devonshire ..	246
Shooting Stars ..	152, 171, 179, 187, 191	Tourists' View of Ireland ..	135
Shorthand, Author, A Manchester ..	281, 288, 295	Townsend, R. S., of Manchester ..	244
Show and Exhibition, Difference Between ..	270	Trains, Express ..	16
Sidesmen and Churchwardens ..	223, 226	Tramways, Steam on..	3
Silver Coinage, The ..	188, 209	Travelling Plant, A ..	3
" Cradle, Origin of ..	60, 64	Trespass of Fowls ..	233
Slood = a Cart Rut ..	188	Tricycling, from Manchester to John o' Groats ..	163
Smith's (George) "Week-day Walks" ..	89	Trinity Church, Salford, Founder of, 132, 136, 142, 153, 158, 160, 182, 210, 225, 241, 256	
Solomon, Dr., and his Balm of Gilead ..	102, 103, 107, 111	Turkish Emblem ..	19, 20
"Somebody's Darling," Origin of..	203, 204	Turner, Miss, Abduction of..	306, 310, 312
Song of a Waxwork Show ..	174, 186	Turton's Church, Liverpool ..	9
" Old Lancashire ..	331	Twyford, Josiah, Clockmaker ..	290, 293
Sonneteers, Women as ..	309	Tyburn Ticket, A ..	290, 302
Sorocold, Thomas, M.A., of Manchester ..	271	Tylebrod ..	139
South Africa, British Capital in ..	21		
Southcott, Joanna ..	2	Umbrellas ..	43, 45, 49
Southport, from Manchester by Road ..	102	Union Hall, A Public Trust ..	296
Sovereigns, Genealogical Table of ..	40, 41, 43	"Upset the Apple Cart" ..	309
"Spade, Calling a Spade a" ..	296, 303	Urmston Hall ..	119
Spanking Roger and the Mynahulls ..	154, 156, 166, 173		
Sparrow, The ..	199	Vale Royal Abbey, Abbots of the..	21, 26
Sphinx, The ..	231	Verses, Authorship of ..	29, 31
Springlings ..	26	" on the Books of the Bible ..	295, 297
Stannycliffe Hall, near Middleton ..	203, 208, 212	Vivian, J., painter ..	25, 26
"Stanton" in Derby and Somersetshire ..	213	Volunteer Engineers in Manchester ..	85, 87
State Names, American Abbreviations of ..	296	Volunteers, Manchester, and the Siege of Gibraltar ..	159, 162, 163, 166
Statistics, Jubilee ..	275		

INDEX.

xi.

	PAGE		PAGE
Walking Tour in North Lancashire	89	Women as Sonneteers	309
" " Yorkshire and Lancashire	247, 249	" in Russia	38
Warren	266	" on Wheels	100
Water Supply, Our ; Is it Decreasing ?	43	Women's Fashions, Sacrifices of Birds to	88
Waterfalls, Powerful	254	" Work, George Elliot on	108
Walton's, Izaak, Shop and the Cock Tavern	228	Wood, Shakspeare	4, 6, 10, 13, 17, 170, 171
Watkin, W. Wynn, Sir, at School at Derby	53	" Warrington	90
Waxwork Show, Song of	174, 186	Woollen Manufactures of Saddleworth	262, 263
Weather, The, and Corns	318	Word "Hee" in Cheshire	112, 115, 122, 144, 148
Weaving Shed, Tropical Ferns in	60	Words, New	61
"We," The Editorial	284, 287	Wordsworth and Lake Country Architecture	243
"Week-day Walks" by George Smith	89	Work on Cromwell	162
Wellington, Duke of, Anecdote of	108	Working Women in France	119
Welsh and Jewish Names	304	Workpeople, French v. English	29
Wesley, John, and St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton	300, 311, 315, 318	Workshop, Cycling Route to	228, 231
Wesleyan Preaching Places Last Century	146	Worsley Family, and their connections with Manchester	136, 143
Westminster Abbey, Fees in	296	Worthing = Manure	110, 128, 129
Whalley Abbey	256, 258	Worthington, of Manchester	130, 133, 139
Wheat and Rye, Crossing of	262	Wrangham or Zouch ?	106
White, Dr.	184, 186, 191		
Whitney Family	287	Yarn Finest Counts of	73
Whitworth, Henry, Publisher	284	Year, Mohammedan	46
Widnes, Mersey Hotel and Ferry at	97	Yeoman's Household, A Saddleworth's, in 1717	228, 232, 234, 237, 242
Wills, Seventeenth Century	248	Yorkshire, Cycle Route to	250, 254, 267
Wills, Yorkshire	284, 291	" Walking Tour in	247, 249
Wilson, Rae, and Tom Hood	159	" Wills	284, 291
Windemary	266, 273		
Winfield Manor	71	Zouch or Wrangham ?	106
Wolenden, Mathematician	30		
Wolves Frighted by the Telegraph	163		

MANCHESTER NOTES AND QUERIES

FOR 1885-6.

Saturday, January 3, 1885.

NOTES.

THE MANCHESTER MARKETS IN THE LAST CENTURY.

[3,704.] Perhaps the following extracts from the *Manchester Mercury* of 1767 will give some idea of the market regulations at that time, now 117 years ago:—

Nov. 20. Notice is hereby given that on Saturday, the 28th day of November, the following regulations will take place within the Manor of Manchester:— The Exchange, and the south and east avenues to it, to be cleared from butchers' standings and all other standings. The butchers' standings to be placed against the other parts of the Exchange, and in two lines on the sides of the market-place, so near the end of Old Millgate.

The bread-bakers' stands to be in the place near the Cross, where the Wheat Market was held. Potatoes, turnips, carrots, and other roots, sold wholesale, to be exposed for sale in the new Potato Market and no other place. Fruits and roots of all kinds, sold by hucksters, in the Apple Market and no other place. Shoes and stockings and hardware in the lower part of the Withingreave, where the Potato Market has heretofore been held.

The gardeners' stands to be placed in the upper end of Smithy Door, and fish in the Market Place near the Cross.

J. OWEN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(Query No. 3,697 and others.)

[3,705.] There is a fruit of the apple kind called "Meddler," and as it is not supposed to be ready for eating until it begins to rot, is it possible that

Layers to catch Meddlers may be nets or sheets laid under the trees to catch them as they fall?

A. W. KING.

MAULDETH.

(Query No. 3,702, December 27.)

[3,706.] Mauldeth Hall was so named by Edmund Wright, of Cannon-street, on his purchasing it in the year 1843 from the late J. C. Dyer, of Burnage. He went to reside there at that time, and continued to do so until his death in the month of September, 1852. A few months after the completion of the purchase I heard Mr. Wright say that he gave it the name of "Mauldeth" because of the peculiar nature of the clay found on some portion of the estate.

E. W.

Plymouth Grove.

THE GREAT STONE, STRETFORD.

(Nos. 3,694 and 3,701.)

[3,707.] On page 312 of Baines' *History of Lancashire*, Hartland's edition, I find the following information relating to the peculiar stone at Stretford:—

There is a very prevalent but obscure tradition in this neighbourhood that a plague prevailed here; it may have been this "sore sickness," or it may have been "the plague of 1604," as no one can assign the date; and on the road from Stretford to Manchester there is a stone, about three feet high, on the top of which are cut two small basins. It is called the "plague stone," and it is said, at the time when this malady raged in Manchester, that these basins were filled with water. When the country people brought their provisions the purchasers put their money into one of the basins, to purify it from the pestilential touch of the townspeople, before it went into the hands of the farmers. There are several other stones about the town of a similar appearance, and, no doubt, applied to the same purpose.

I should mention that the above is a foot-note to the Hundred of Salford, Manchester parish. No mention is made of its having been the pedestal of a cross, long since removed and perhaps destroyed, though, as Mr. HARDWICK suggests, it may have been originally constructed for that purpose. In all probability it has fulfilled the functions of both, if the cross was removed previous to the plague. The pedestal with the mortice-holes would readily lend itself to the purpose in question. I have always been told by old inhabitants of that locality that vinegar, and not water, was the disinfectant used. And they invariably refer to it as the "plague stone." The tradition of its formerly supporting a cross is not, I believe, generally accepted thereabouts. Where are the other stones mentioned by Baines?

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

(Query No. 8,654, November 8.)

[3,708.] I do not think that the fanatic, Joanna Southcott, ever lived in Manchester. She was born, as far as I can gather from the scanty records which I possess, in Devonshire, in 1750, and was for a long time a servant in Exeter. When between thirty and forty years of age, she joined the Methodists. She afterwards gave out that she was a prophetess, and wrote and dictated prophecies in prose and doggerel rhyme. She said that she was the woman clothed with the sun (Rev. xii. 1 verse), and soon had a number of followers. She then obtained money by selling seals, which, she said, would secure the salvation of the purchasers. Intoxicated with her success, she challenged the bishop and clergy of Exeter to make a trial of her miraculous powers; but they treating her offer with silent contempt, she gave out to her followers that they did so through fear. Her congregation increased to such numbers that Exeter became too small a town for her, and she went to London.

The greatest imposture of this woman was that she pretended that the Saviour of Mankind, the Prince of Peace, would be born of her on the 19th of October, 1814, at twelve o'clock a.m., at which time she numbered 100,000 followers, who contributed to buy an expensive cradle and clothes worthy of the expected Shiloh. Hence the name Shilohites, which was given to the sect. At the appointed time, the street being crowded with anxious spectators, it was given out that she had fallen into a trance. She died on the 27th of December the same year. Her

own confession, when she found that, in consequence of her prophecy not being true, her followers would drop off, was that, "If she were deceived, she was at all events misled by some spirit, whether good or evil." The cradle was the production of Messrs. Seddons, Aldersgate-street, London, and cost 100 guineas. It was profusely ornamented with gilding, and hung with light blue and white satin, embroidered and fringed with gold. On the canopy was the following inscription, "A Freewill Offering by Faith to the Promised Seed, 1814." On the gilt was embroidered an emblematical picture, representing our Saviour's reign upon earth, as set forth in Isaiah xi. Above and beneath this picture were these lines:—

The Prince of Peace will now be known,
To raise on earth a David's throne.

This cradle was deposited in the Peel Park Museum, and was there for a number of years; but on my last two or three visits it was missing. How it found its way to Peel Park I am unable to say; perhaps some other correspondent can enlighten us on this.

Some twenty-five or thirty years ago, a congregation belonging to this sect used to assemble in a cooper's shop in, I believe, Ashton-under-Lyne. They hung out banners of coloured calico and canvas, painted with curious hieroglyphics. Inside the shed were seats made of planks laid on inverted pails, and the congregation—which mostly consisted of boys—were separated from those who conducted the service by a strong wooden bar and a curtain. On a desk were laid some of the pamphlets written by Joanna, and after a time the Shilohites made their appearance in front of the curtain, headed by a wild-looking woman, with her hair streaming and a band of tinsel round her brow. The men, who accompanied her, wore long beards and white vestments, crossed by belts with texts inscribed thereon. They sung some doggerel verses, beginning, "See the conquering Shiloh comes," accompanied by a large drum and a wheezy accordion. Some absurd rubbish was read from one of the books which were on the desk by the wild-looking woman, interrupted by remarks from the boys forming the congregation, and a collection being made for the saints, as they called themselves the affair ended. This woman, who took so prominent a part in the service, was in the habit of entering the neighbouring churches during divine worship, and addressing offensive remarks to the officiating clergyman.

The history of Joanna Southcott and her followers carries with it a certain warning in these days of sensational religion.

W. CHENEY BAILEY.

QUERIES.

[3,709.] **COMMON-PLACE BOOK.**—Where can one meet with the “Improved Common-place Book,” on the plan of Locke; or with anything really useful in this way to literary workers?

DELTA.

[3,710.] **MRS. CARLYLE’S “GHYOUW.”**—In Mr. Froude’s *Last Forty Years of Carlyle’s Life*, pp. 331-2, it is related that the sage’s mother used to call a big, ill-shaped, awkward fellow “a Ghyouw,” and that in Icelandic there is a similar word, spelled “Giaou,” used to describe anything ugly and fearful. We have a very common word, “Gawby,” in our local dialect, which Nodal and Milner in their *Lancashire Glossary* explain as meaning “a lout, a silly fellow, a clown,” but generally it is used in the sense Mrs. Carlyle used “Ghyouw.” If a person be dressed in showily bad taste our country people say “what a guy he is.” The A.S. for vulture is Giow. May it be said these designatives have a common origin in the Icelandic “Giaou?”

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

CHARLES DICKENS AND GEORGE ELIOT.—On the appearance of George Eliot’s first novel, *Scenes of Clerical Life*, which was published anonymously in *Blackwood’s Magazine*, Charles Dickens surmised that the writer was a woman, and after he had read *Adam Bede* he had no doubt of it. Mr. Edmund Yates says he had often heard Dickens say this full conviction came upon him after reading a passage where Hetty looks at and admires her neck in a glass: he declared no man would have dared to have written that scene.

STEAM ON TRAMWAYS.—The North London Tramways Company has reported so emphatically in favour of substituting steam for horses that the system is to be worked by steam in future, the experiment of the North Staffordshire tramways being regarded as conclusive both as to profit and convenience. Neither steam, smoke, fumes, nor rattle are said to be perceptible from the engines which they are about to use on the North London line.

A TRAVELLING PLANT.—To the number of curious plants, such as the carnivorous and fly-catching plant, a new specimen has lately been added which is described as the travelling plant. It is said to be of the lily of the valley species (*Convallaria polygatum*) and has a root formed of knots, by which it annually advances about an inch distant from the place where the plant was first rooted. Every year another knot is added, which drags the plant further on, so that in twenty years’ time the plant has travelled about twenty inches from its original place.

Saturday, January 10, 1885.

NOTES.

THE FIRST RAILWAY GUIDE.

[3,711.] Mr. John Gadsby, formerly of Manchester a son of the celebrated Rev. William Gadsby, having had his attention directed by the Chief Librarian of the Manchester Free Library to the notes on *Bradshaw’s Railway Guide* which have appeared in the *London Notes and Queries*, has sent to that periodical a statement that he, and not George Bradshaw, was “the originator of that valuable public benefit.” He says:—

I began business in Manchester as a printer in 1834, and in 1839 I issued my first number of *Gadsby’s Monthly Railway Guide*. Mr. Abel Heywood, the well-known publisher of Manchester, Mr. Alderman King, and others still living, will remember this. But I have yet in my possession the letters I received from the Manchester and Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool, and Grand Junction [railway companies]. I enclose copies. Now, Bradshaw did not begin his until 1841, in the doing of which he copied from me. And some time after that I was made the printer and publisher to the Anti-Corn Law League. This so filled my hands, and head too, that I gave up to Bradshaw. Two or three years afterwards I met Mr. Blacklock, and said to him, “I ought to have copyrighted my Guide.” “Ah,” he replied, “it is too late now.” Mr. Blacklock’s widow is still living. But in 1841 *Bradshaw* was not in its present form. I have a copy for 1842, price 1s., in which the preface says, “The time-tables forming this little work are arranged as a sheet, and published on the first of every month, price 3d.” It was not till 1842 that Bradshaw began to publish monthly at all, and then it was on a broad sheet; whereas I began in book form in 1839, and published monthly from the first, price 3d., Bradshaw copying from me a couple of years or so after. Bradshaw originated the foreign railway guide and also maps. I never gave maps. I am now seventy-six, and every circumstance is as fresh in my mind as if it occurred last week. I supplied all Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, and other minor towns before Bradshaw began. The forenamed secretary [? Chief Librarian] of the Manchester Free Library says, “What a pity you did not stick to *Gadsby’s Monthly Railway Guide*!”

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COMMON-PLACE BOOK.

(Query No. 3,709, January 8.)

[3,712.] DELTA will find the simplest plan to be to enter his extracts into a book, say of the pattern of a small ledger, minus the cash column ruling, numbering them consecutively in the left-hand margin, and indexing by giving number of page and extract. The fact that this is adopted by that

"Prince of Journalists." G. A. Sala, may be considered a strong recommendation in its favour. I think DELTA will find it much more economical in space than one constructed on Locke's plan.

MIRROTAMOTT.

THE STRETTFORD STONE.

(Nos. 3,694, 3,701, and 3,707.)

[3,713.] I was surprised to read the statement made in a recent number about the Great Stone, Stretford. Describing the stone in a work on *Traditions, Superstitions, and Folk Lore*, the author states:—"The stone really is the pedestal of an ancient cross, similar to many yet to be seen in various parts of Lancashire and Cheshire. It presents, however, the peculiarity of two square mortice holes for the support of the upright shaft." The author has evidently not seen the Robin Hood's Picking Rods near Glossop, the Bow Stones near Disley, and The Stone on Whaley Moor. I venture to state that no cross exists in which the upright shaft is secured to a pedestal or base stone by means of two mortice holes and tenons; the assertion that the Stretford Stone, with its two mortice holes, is an exception, is a random guess which a little local inquiry would have disproved. The stone monuments near Glossop and Disley, which are still perfect, consist of a base stone with two holes on the top surface, in each of which is a short upright pillar. The stone on Whaley Moor is very similar to the one near Stretford; the upright stones were removed some thirty years ago by village boys. Anyone who has examined these three stones and then sees the one at Stretford will at once perceive what its original use was. The whole of these monuments were photographed two years ago, and copies may probably be seen in the Museum at Queen's Park.

ARCHÆOLOGIST.

PARKIN OR THARCAKE.

(Query No. 3,703, December 27.)

[3,714.] Tharcake, as "J. B. E." surmises, is certainly older than Gunpowder Plot. The entries in Nodal and Milner's *Lancashire Glossary* may perhaps throw a little light on the subject. They are as follows:—

THARCAKE, a cake made from meal, treacle, and butter, and eaten on the night of the fifth of November. Short for *Tharf-cake*, Middle-English *therf-cake* in Pier's Plowman. Anglo-Saxon *theorf*, unleavened.

THAR-CAKE MONDAY, the first Monday after Halloween, which is the vigil of All Saints' Day, which is the first of November. The second of November is All Souls' Day. In the *Festa Anglo-Romano* we read, "the

custom of *Soul Mass Cakes*, which are a kind of oat-cakes, that some of the richer sorts of persons in Lancashire (among the Papists) use still to give to the poor on this day." The name, however,—*Thar-cake*, or *Thor-cake*—suggests a still older origin.

We have here the word traced, historically and philologically, back to the Anglo-Saxon and Middle-English period, long anterior to the time of Guy Faux; and it is also connected with old Roman Catholic saints' days occurring on the first and second days of November. In the lapse of time the traditional use of tharcake on these days has been transferred to the fifth of November, the day rendered memorable by Guy Faux and his plot, to which, however, it has no sort of necessary or natural relation. It is almost certain, as "J. B. E." and the authors of the Glossary suggest, that the word and the cake itself were introduced here from Scandinavia; and it would be interesting if any one could bring any facts to bear upon the subject from the literature or traditions of the far north.

ERGO.

QUERIES.

[3,715.] SHAKSPERE WOOD.—I have purchased a medallion of a head or face, bearing the inscription: "Shakspere Wood fecit July 10, 1847." Who was or is Shakspere Wood?

BLACKPOOL.

[3,716.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINE.—"The visible rhetoric of a holy life." Can any of your readers inform me where the above line is to be found? I have seen it ascribed to George Herbert.

W. T. B.

[3,717.] A THUMB BUTTER SHIVE.—Can any of your readers tell me what a "thumb butter shive" is? A "butter shive" is, I suppose, a slice of bread and butter; but in Yorkshire farm-houses I have heard reference to a "thumb butter shive."

E. R.

Penistone.

[3,718.] BULL AND PUNCH BOWL, OLD TRAFFORD. In what year and who was the landlord of the above when so called? I have heard it was kept by a man named Ruffley, who was a driver of one of the busses that used to run between Bowdon and Manchester.

WILLIAM TYASS.

[3,719.] FOX-FIRE.—In his new book, *Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain makes his two boys, Huck and Tom, go out into the woods and get "a lot of them rotten chunks that's called fox-fire, and just makes a soft kind of glow when you lay them in a dark

place" (p. 356). They needed "some light to see how to dig by," and a lantern would have "made too much" for their purpose. What is fox-fire?

D. W. (Bury.)

[3,720.] **REGRATING.**—In the *Pocket Magazine* of 1796, among the chronicles of the month, is the following:—"At the quarter sessions at Aylesbury, Bucks, Thomas Battain was indicted for regrating, by buying fourteen quarters and a half of corn in Olney, and selling it again the same day in the same market. The bench sentenced him to fourteen days' imprisonment, and a fine of £200." Under what law was this sentence inflicted, and is the law still extant? What is the origin of the term "regrating," and was it applied only to the buying and selling on the same day and in the same market of corn?

DELPH.

MR. SALA ON THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.—Speaking at Philadelphia the other day of the English law of libel and Mr. Edmund Yates's imprisonment, Mr. Sala declared that in no part of the civilized world is the liberty of the press greater. It may criticize in the severest fashion a public man or the public acts of a private citizen, but it may not assail his wife or his private life. It may not say, for instance, that the Marquis of Carabas owes his tailor £5. The line is clearly drawn by the law, and enough latitude is left for all the necessities of journalism. "Bless your soul," he went on, "I could set London on fire if I'd print a tithe of the gossip I hear."

TESTS FOR HEARING.—Tests for strength of eyesight are as common as vendors of spectacles, and Professor A. Graham Bell, of telephone fame, has now added to the instruments for measuring the acumen of the senses, by the construction of an apparatus for determining the capacity of the ear. By its means it has been found that equal capacity of both ears is exceptional, most persons having a marked difference in this respect. From the results of a number of tests among the public school children in New York, Professor Bell estimates that ten per cent have slight defects in hearing, and that one per cent are too deaf to receive benefits from the ordinary modes of instruction.

INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF TEA.—As remarkable a fact in its way as the great and continued decrease of failures in retail trade is the very steady increase in the consumption of non-intoxicating foods in this country. The deliveries of tea, for example, were last month about a million pounds more than in January, 1884, the rate of yearly increase—five per cent—having been steadily preserved since 1882. In January of that year the deliveries were 16,607,000lb.; and last month the total 19,404,000lb., marking an increase of 17½ per cent over the rate of deliveries three years ago. The lot of the great consuming classes cannot be very hard under such circumstances.

Saturday, January 17, 1885.

NOTES.

THE PARISH SEXTON.

[3,721.] The following inscription (which was then becoming obliterated by decay) might have been read about five or six years ago on a tombstone erected close by the entrance to the parish church of St. Mary, Tadcaster, Yorkshire. One of the oldest inhabitants of the town recited the lines to the writer last Christmas. It is probable that the stone was erected about 150 years ago. It was removed when the church was restored, but not replaced. It seems a pity that such an interesting relic should not be restored by the parish authorities:—

Beneath this stone lies Thomas Wood,
Who sexton here has been,
And without tears, sixty-six years,
That awful trade hath seen.

At length grim death did him assail,
And thus to him did say—
"Forsake thy trade, lay down thy spade,
Make haste and come away."

Without reply, or asking why,
The summons he obeyed;
And, aged eighty-eight, resigned
The shuttle and the spade.

The parish, for his long and faithful services, erected
this stone to his memory.
The sexton, it appears, was a weaver.

R. BOLLAND.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(No. 3,706 and others.)

[3,722.] The origin, and indeed the meaning of layers for meddlers, as some call it, seems to me to be still obscure. My old grandfather was a Lincolnshire man, and when I was a lad, sometimes when he was busy I would importune him as to what he was doing, the answer being that he was "making lay-house for meddlers and crutches for lame ducks." Is there anything in the experience of your readers to tell us what a "lay-house" is? W. H. B.

FOX-FIRE.

(Query No. 3,719, January 10.)

[3,723.] "D. W.," after quoting a sentence from Mark Twain's new work, asks, What is fox-fire? If he will procure the stem of an old thorn bush which has been thoroughly decayed, i.e. the heart wood so

rotten as to crumble almost at the touch, and take the same into any darkened room, he will have a practical illustration of the "rotten chunks which cause a soft kind of glow in a dark place."

J. BRIERLEY.

The Towers, Didsbury.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

(Query No. 3,715, January 10.)

[3,724.] A few years since, while on a visit to Rome, I met a Mr. Shakspeare Wood, who "personally conducted" tourists over the ruins and antiquities of the ancient city. He informed me that he had resided many years in Rome, but that he was a native of Manchester, having been born in the "neighbourhood of Shudehill." He evidently regarded the place of his nativity as a highly salubrious and fashionable district, and I did not undeceive him. Mr. Wood is a person of culture and taste, and it is not improbable that he may be the sculptor of the medallion which has excited the interest of your correspondent BLACKPOOL. I think a letter addressed to Cooks' Tourist Offices, Rome, would reach Mr. Wood.

EDWIN SIMPSON.

Manchester Royal Exchange.

PARKIN OR THARCAKE.

(Nos. 3,703 and 3,714.)

[3,725.] ERGO's timely research has thrown much light and interest upon this question. Parkin as a name for the article is, I take it, one of the "improvements" which modern fine manners have made, or it is more probably a lazy corruption of the term Tharcake. There is one peculiarity about Tharcake: it is the only confection made of oatmeal known in this country. This is one proof of its very ancient descent. It was probably made and eaten long before wheat was known on this island. The "bread" of our forefathers was oaten bread. The "bread" we now speak of was to them "whitebread." I hope some of your readers may be able to comply with ERGO's request, and "bring some facts to bear upon the subject from the literature or traditions of the far north."

J. B. E.

THE FIRST RAILWAY GUIDE.

(Note No. 3,711, January 10.)

[3,726.] I possess a copy of *Bradshaw's Railway Companion*, and I find the date of its publication is a year earlier than stated by Mr. Gadsby. The size is about four and a half inches by two and a half, and it is bound in cloth. The price is one shilling, and it

was published in 1840. The address to the public states that it is compiled with the assistance of the several railway companies. The contents are:—Time-tables of twenty-nine lines; cab fares for London, Manchester, and Birmingham; thirteen maps of counties and cities, the railway lines delineated in the maps; sections of London and Birmingham Grand Junction and Manchester and Liverpool lines; and names of railways in England as numbered on the map. Published at 27, Brown-street, by Bradshaw and Blacklock.

F. KENDERDINE.

Old Trafford.

THE BULL AND PUNCH BOWL, OLD TRAFFORD.

(Query No. 3,718, January 10.)

[3,727.] The Bull and Punch Bowl, Old Trafford, was kept by my grandfather, John Ruffley, about 1846 to the year 1849. The name was changed by him from the Bull to the Bull and Punch Bowl. He was the proprietor for twenty-four years of the Nettle coach, which ran from the Angel Hotel, Northwich, to the King's Arms Hotel, King-street, Manchester. He previously lived at Witton Hall, Northwich, and is now living, at the ripe age of seventy-eight, in California.

FRANK RUFFLEY TINDELL.

Moss Side.

* * *

Mr. James Hulme was the landlord of the Bull and Punch Bowl Hotel at Old Trafford for twenty-one years, and gave it up about the year 1841. The father of James Hulme had it when it was a farmhouse, and he afterwards got it licensed. His name was Thomas Hulme. John Ruffley kept it after James Hulme, but only a short time. I have a letter in my possession which will corroborate all I have written, and it can be seen if requisite.

S. SMITH.

41, Thomas-street, City.

THUMB BUTTER SHIVE.

(Query No. 3,717, January 10.)

[3,728.] A thumb butter shive is simply a slice of bread and butter, but the butter is spread with the thumb instead of a knife. In Oldham they would call it a "thumb butter cake;" and I have heard old people express their preference for bread and butter made after this fashion, for the thumb spreads the butter without scraping it off again, as the knife is sometimes allowed to do.

SEVILLE CROMPTON.

Oldham.

* * *

A thumb butter shive is a shive or slice of bread, buttered with the thumb instead of with a knife, as was often done by the farmer's wife in the olden time when knives were scarce and butter was plentiful. The "thumb butter cake," as it was more properly called, was a great favourite with hungry boys who had not yet learnt that they had a liver. It was made hastily upon a piece of oatcake reached down from the "breadflake" on the ceiling of the house-place and buttered with the thumb to save the trouble of finding a knife, and the consequent trouble of cleaning the same. The "thumb butter cake" was a favourite tit-bit, because of necessity the butter was laid on thickly and unevenly, and could not well be scraped off again. It should be borne in mind that butter was butter in those days. J. B. E.

THE STRETTFORD STONE.

(No. 3,713 and others.)

[3,729.] ARCHÆOLOGIST may or may not be correct in his speculations respecting the stones at Glossop, Disley, and Whaley Moor, but he is evidently ignorant of the tradition attaching to the stone at Stretford. Both the theories advanced by my friend Mr. STARKIE have been for many years locally prevalent, but the most probable hypothesis is that the stone was originally the base of either a large cross or some perpendicular shaft. Not long ago there was a similar stone, but one whose symmetry was far more perfect, standing at the corner of King-street and Chester Road, in Stretford village; and the fact that even now the neighbourhood is invariably called the "Cross" is sufficient evidence, I contend, that the massive square granite was once the pedestal of a superstructure or cross. This stone which, if my recollection be right, had only one mortice hole in the centre, and which was formerly the scene of violent temperance and polemical declamation, was recently lying in the old chapel yard further down the road, and as it has perhaps not been removed, an examination of it would corroborate my statement. But my father long ago used to tell of another cross which stood somewhere in the vicinity of Derbyshire Lane, just outside the village, and his reference tends strongly to confirm the general belief that wayside crosses existed at Stretford in bygone days.

SAMUEL BANNISTER.

Greenheys.

REGRATING.

(Query No. 3,720, January 10.)

[3,730.] Regrating was an offence against public trade, and consisted in buying corn, or other dead victual, in any market and selling it again in the same market, or within four miles of the place. It enhanced the price of provisions as every successive seller had a successive profit. Hawkins, in his *Pleas of the Crown*, points out that it was both a statutable offence and a common law misdemeanour. The punishment at common law was as follows:—The offender to be grievously amerced for the first offence; for the second, to be condemned to the pillory; for the third, to be imprisoned; and for the fourth, to be condemned to abjure the vill. "And," he goes on to say, "there seems to be no doubt but that at this day all offenders of this kind are liable to fine and imprisonment answerable to the heinousness of their offence upon an indictment at common law." By 5 and 6 Edward VI., c. 14, s. 2, it was enacted;—

Whosoever shall by any means iregrate, obtain or get into his hands or possession, in any fair or market any corn, wine, fish, butter, cheese, candles, tallow, sheep, lambs, calves, swine, pigs, geese, capons, hens, chickens, pigeons, conies, or other dead victual whatsoever that shall be brought to any fair or market to be sold, and do sell the same again in any fair or market holden in the same place or within 4 miles thereof shall be taken for a Regrator, and shall for the first offence suffer two months imprisonment and forfeit the value of the goods so bought, for the second offence suffer a half-year's imprisonment and forfeit double value of the same, for the third offence be set on the pillory, forfeit all his goods, and be condemned to prison during the King's pleasure.

The statute 5 and 6 Edward was amended by 5 Elizabeth, c. 5, s. 13, 5 Eliz., c. 12, and 13 Eliz., c. 25, s. 21; and these statutes, and others of a like nature, were repealed by 12 George III., c. 71, which recited that the restraint laid by several statutes upon the dealing in corn, meal, flour, cattle, and sundry other sorts of victuals, by preventing a free trade in the said commodities, had a tendency to discourage the growth and to enhance the price of the same. The common law penalty of fine and imprisonment was not, however, taken away until the 7 and 8 Victoria, c. 24, which utterly abolished the offences of badgering, engrossing, forestalling, and regrating. In 1796 offenders would be punished for the common law misdemeanour.

C. E. SMITH.

Kennedy-street, Manchester.

* * *

In answer to the Query of DELPH, I would refer him to the *Liber Albus* of the City of London, which contains several enactments against Forestallers and Regrators, a class of persons who, for their own gain and public loss, bought up outside the city any commodities intended for sale in the open market, in order to retail, or regrate, at a profit, to the detriment of the consumer. Under the head of "Measures" it is decreed "that no (baker) of the town shall give unto the regratresses the sixpence on Monday morning by way of hansel-money: but after the ancient manner (let him give) thirteen articles of bread for twelve" (p. 232), so indicating that "a baker's dozen," i.e., thirteen to the dozen, is more "ancient" than the reign of Edward the First.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

An old writer says:—

REGRATOR [i.e., one guilty of regrating] may be deduced from the French Regrateur, and signifies him that buys wares or victuals on purpose to enhance the prices. Formerly such as bought by "great" [wholesale] and sold by "retail," came under that notion.

At the time of the prosecution in 1796, mentioned by your correspondent, it denoted "him that buys and sells any wares or victuals in the same market or fair or within five miles thereof." Another writer states the article must have been resold in the same fair or market, or in some other within four miles thereof, at a higher price. The offence, although not confined to selling corn, applied only to necessities of life, and it would seem that the resale need not necessarily have taken place on the day of purchase.

Closely allied to "regrating" was a similar offence called "forestalling," which signified "the buying or bargaining for any corn, 'cattel,' or other merchandise by the way before it comes to any market or fair to be sold, or by the way as it comes from beyond the seas or otherwise toward any city, port, haven, or creek of this realm, to the intent to sell the same again at a more high and dear price." This offence could be committed by dissuading persons from bringing their goods to market, or persuading them to enhance the price when there. It was abolished in 1844. The Act of Parliament effecting the abolition repealed the whole or parts of nearly forty statutes on the subject, including those relating to Scotland and Ireland passed between

the fifty-first year of the reign of Henry III. and the twenty-seventh year of George III.

The late Sir John Holker when at the Bar once made a capital "hit" by reference to this ancient law. He was engaged in about the last case in the list at the Manchester Assizes. His opponent, a very eminent Q.C., had gone to Liverpool where the Commission of Assize for that place was about to be opened. The case was called on. Sir John (then Mr. Holker) rising, said, "Where is Mr. —?" "He has gone to Liverpool." "Gone to Liverpool! He had no right to do so, my lord; he has forestalled the market!" Judicial decorum was not proof against the roar which followed.

E. A.

QUERIES.

[3,731.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Where shall I find the following quotation:—

Soul of the past,
Companion of the dead;
Where is thy home?
Whither hast thou fled?

PHIL.

THE AGES OF LEADING POLITICIANS.—Mr. Gladstone has entered his 76th year, Mr. Bright is 74, Lord Granville is 69, Lord Hartington is 51, Mr. Forster 66, Sir W. Harcourt 57, the Duke of Argyll 61, the Earl of Derby 58, Mr. Childers 57, Sir Charles Dilke is 41, Mr. Chamberlain 48, the Earl of Rosebery 37, Mr. Trevelyan 46, Sir Henry James 56, Mr. Courtney 52, and Mr. John Morley 46. Lord Cairns is 67, Sir Stafford Northcote and Lord John Manners 66, Lord Salisbury 54, Sir M. Hicks-Beach 47, the Duke of Richmond 66, Sir Richard Cross 61, Mr. W. H. Smith 59, Lord Randolph Churchill 35, Mr. Stanhope 44, Lord George Hamilton 39, and Mr. Chaplin 44.

ENGRAVING.—During the last quarter of a century there has been a great addition to the number of processes of mechanical or automatic engraving, and those desirous of illustrating books or periodicals are greatly puzzled by the embarrassment of choice. It is estimated that there is now about thirty such processes, English and foreign, although the difference between some of these is merely nominal. A small number are purely mechanical, others employ chemical means, and a third description owe their existence to a development of the science of photography. In order that some approach may be made towards the ascertainment of their respective and relative merits, an international competition has been projected, and it will be held in London in April next, when prizes will be awarded. Each competitor will be furnished with the same subjects for competition, namely, a pen and ink drawing by Sturges, a line engraving by Masquellier after Paul Potter, a drawing in wash by Shirley Hodson, a photograph of sculpture by W. England, a photograph of a landscape by the Military School at Chatham, and a photographic portrait.

Saturday, January 24, 1885.

NOTES.

"AROINT THEE, WITCH."

[3,731.] The word "aroint" has hitherto been a puzzler. Is there no possibility of unravelling its perplexity? Lane in his work, "The Modern Egyptians," says, that when a person is apprehensive of the approach of an evil Ginnee, he cries out "Iron, thou unlucky"; and the Ginnee quickly makes himself scarce, for he is mortally afraid of iron. So in like manner when the witch had asked the sailor's wife for some chestnuts, she suddenly decamped in a tantrum of fear and anger, because the answer she received was "A roan tree, witch"; for according to the Scotch couplet,

The Roan tree with red thread
Hauds the witches a' in dread.

That "Roan tree," and not "Aroint thee," is the true reading of the passage will be evident if we make "Aroint" into a word of three syllables with the accent on the second, and write under it the answer given above, thus:

A—ró—int thee, witch,

A—ró—an tree, witch.

The great similarity of sound in these two expressions, coupled with the fact that the Rowan, or Roan tree, was the grand specific against witchcraft makes it clear that the latter expression was the answer given to the witch by the sailor's wife; and that "Aroint thee" is an error of the press occasioned by the illegible writing of some careless transcriber.

S. HEWITT.

Parcival-street, C.-on-M.

TURTON'S CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.

[3,732.] The following extraordinary notice, which was printed broadways as a small handbill, and distributed throughout Liverpool at the time, is worth reprinting. I have transcribed it from a copy in the library of the British Museum:—

This is to give notice, I HAVE prepared a CHURCH, in TURTON'S-COURT, will contain near five hundred People, I have made five Sermons from the pure word of God, not one word of my own, on five different subjects, I shall preach one of them on Sunday next, at five o'clock in the afternoon; and I hope as many as are here present, out of this number, one out of every ten will attend this Sermon, and nothing but the spirit of Satan will prevent you if you don't come, as I find by the pure word of God not one out of twenty in reality is serving God with a pure heart fervently.—Then if this is the case they must

be serving Mammon, the God of this World, Satan. I will be bound to say, those that hear me preach these five Sermons, with the assistance of God his Holy Spirit, accompanying his own pure word by my mouth as an instrument appointed by God, will receive more benefit and blessing than five hundred Sermons by different Persons, from different Pulpits, of 58 different professions, which I have got in my possession. *From your humble servant WILLIAM TURTON — Bishop of the Church of Jesus Christ, and of Liverpool: To the Glory of God and the good of my Fellow Creatures without Fee or Reward.*

April 24th, 1810.

In the original, from which this is copied, a word has unfortunately been erased, just before Bishop.

J. COOPER MORLEY.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FOX-FIRE.

(Nos. 3,719 and 3,723.)

[3,733.] The term "fox-fire" appears to designate that glow which arises from both decaying animal and vegetable matter. It is of the same nature as the light which children frequently produce on their hands by damping them and rubbing them in the dark with the brimstone end of a lucifer match. But if you wish to see the true "fox-fire" you will find it on the sea. If you sit at the bow of the boat on a cloudy night, going about twelve knots an hour, you will see it glancing from the side of the ship and lighting the crests of the small waves made by the ship. It is simply the phosphorus in the water; and the word "fox-fire" is a nautical corruption of the word "phosphorus."

ROSS LANGHAM.

Cheetham Hill.

THE OLD PARSONAGE IN DEANSGATE.

(Query No. 3,696, December 20.)

[3,734.] The Rev. E. F. LETTS inquires whether any view or picture of the old Parsonage in Deansgate is known to exist. In a scrap-book in the Chetham Library he will find a small view of the parsonage and parsonage fields on a plan of the ancient town of Manchester taken in the year 800, copied by J. Wyatt, surveyor. At the bottom of the plan these words are written in pencil, "Gross falsehood and liable to lead people into error. I would say very improbable, as the first known survey is the Domesday Survey.—W. J." In 1877 I made an oil painting of Parsonage House, in Parsonage Lane, between Deansgate and Albert-street, which is a very old hostelry named after it.

FREDERICK LAWRENCE TAVARE.

Thomas-street, Cheetham Hill.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

(Nos. 3,715 and 3,724.)

[3,735.] Mr. Edwin Waugh, in a series of articles which he contributed to the *Manchester Weekly Times* Supplement, entitled "Roads out of Manchester," refers to the sculptor mentioned by your correspondent BLACKPOOL. Mr. Waugh's account will be found in the issue of November 20, 1880, under the heading of Oldham Road, and the author, having proceeded in his narrative as far as Failsworth, says, "At a farmhouse in Dob Lane, Shakspeare Wood, now an eminent sculptor in Rome, was nursed in his delicate childhood." Mr. SIMPSON's assertion places beyond doubt the fact that Mr. Wood is a Manchester man. Mr. Waugh's statement is not so positive upon this point; yet I think that some of our Failsworth friends will be able to furnish us with some further particulars concerning the "eminent sculptor" which at present we do not seem to possess.

JOHN H. ASHWORTH.

Cookson-street, Manchester.

LAYERS FOR MEDDLERS.

(Nos. 3,722 and others.)

[3,736.] "Lay holes for meddlers" I have often heard, and considering how common this phrase was I am surprised that none of your correspondents have reported it. "Lay o's," as one, however, puts it, is undoubtedly an abbreviation. Now, two boys walking together, and one suggesting a race to a bridge or a public-house, the poorest runner of the two would say: "Yes, if you will give me 'a lay,' " lay meaning a certain distance in advance at the start. This agreed upon, they run. Moreover, a lay, ley, or lea, is an unmeasured space or distance. Is it not likely, therefore, that the above phrase has originated out of a boys' play—well known thirty years ago—of digging a few holes, putting into one or more of them something of a disagreeable character, and covering it over with dust or ashes, and then the boy or boys for whom it was intended, as novice or novices going a lay or distance from the holes to start running from for the pretended prize or prizes that they were told were in the holes—generally represented to be marbles or coppers—by the older boys who, of course, acted as decoys and umpires at the same time, until the unlucky boy or boys who had not seen the game before, or who had allowed themselves to be too easily persuaded into something apparently profitable to themselves, had been de-

coyed? The race run, the novice or covetous were always first, and so got something very different to what they expected, and therefore were victims of the "lay-holes." It was a game seldom played, because the unenviable popularity of the winners spread far and wide, and raw recruits came up very slow, and it will be obvious enough that it was not a "goody goody" boys' game, except sometimes as victims.

J. O.

Cathedral Yard.

* * *

Allow me a word or two anent Layers for Meddlers. Your numerous correspondents are quite right in their definition of the meaning and application of the phrase as an evasive answer to an inconvenient or prying question. As a somewhat inquisitive youth I frequently had this reply made to some question of mine, but always in this way:—"Layoles for meddlers and apple pie for tooters"—pronounced "too-thers." My recollection is that it was "layores" and not "layholes," but of this I am by no means certain.

MYLES NORTH.

THE STRETTFORD STONE.

(No. 3,713 and others.)

[3,737.] May I just point out one or two facts in connection with this stone which may perhaps serve to clear up some of the mystery surrounding it? My friends Messrs. Hardwick and Bannister may both be right as to the theory that "the stone is really the pedestal of an ancient cross." I am not prepared to prove that it is not, but I would like to ask why are two mortice holes required to support one upright shaft? If the two sockets were actually made for that purpose then the shaft of the cross must have been divided like an inverted Y—(X)—in order to fit the corresponding mortice holes; or, if this was not so, then the base of the shaft would have to be formed like the top portion of the letter T, with the projecting parts inserted in the sockets. But this is highly improbable for this reason—it would be insecure, and a slight concussion would have snapped it in the middle or at the foot. According to the evidence of Mr. Bannister there is every probability that wayside crosses did exist in the locality, and I may mention the fact that some years since, the same road in the neighbourhood of the Bull's Head Inn, Sale, went by the name of "Cross-street." How did it obtain this name? Was it owing to the crosses or the fact of the road or street crossing the Mersey at the toll-

bridge between Stretford and Sale? The road is now called "Washway Road."

I have not seen the stone in question for some considerable time, but from what I can remember it is a boulder stone and has had very little if any dressing. It must have been there previous to the outbreak of the Plague, for it is absurd to suppose that a stone of such dimensions would be placed there at the cost of great manual labour when two small dishes or basins would have served the purpose equally as well. If it was there at the time of the Plague, even in an uncut state, the two holes could speedily have been made, and there would be no possibility of the basins being stolen by any passing pedestrian.

Tradition has given to it the name of "Plague Stone," and I think it very probable that it was used for the purpose mentioned in Baines's *History of Lancashire*. A many reasons are given for the appearance of the two holes in the centre, and I have heard it stated that one hole was filled with vinegar and the other with water, and that the coins were taken out of the acid and washed in the water to prevent corrosion. A comparison with the other stones mentioned in Harland Baines's *Lancashire* would perhaps throw further light upon the subject. Is it perhaps possible that the stone may be of Roman origin? The Roman milliaries were frequently roughly hewn and irregular blocks of stone, and this one is by the side of an important Roman road. Mr. W. Thompson Watkin might be able to afford some information concerning it.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

THARCAKE AND PARKIN.

(Nos. 3,703, 3,714, and 3,725.)

[3,738.] I have read with interest the notes about Tharcake. None of them appear to me to refer to what I understood by Tharcake when I was a boy upwards of forty years ago, and then living at Bradshaw village near Bolton. Tharcake with us consisted of oatmeal and water, sometimes with a little dripping and sometimes without, and it was baked over the fire on an oven plate or on a backstone. Parkin was unknown. When treacle was added we called it treacle cake, or treacle bunnock. Tharcake was made at various times all the year round when other bread ran short; treacle cake or treacle bunnock just before the Fifth of November, and very seldom at any other time,

J. G.

* * *

The contributions on the above subject, including the quotations from Nodal and Milner's *Lancashire Glossary*, are not a little curious to me, who have heard the latter term pronounced so often as Th'ardcake, meaning, as I always understood, "the hard cake," which, indeed, as made at home in all the townships between Manchester and Oldham, was hard enough thirty or forty years ago. The shop, or soft variety, made by professional confectioners, more often received the name of parkin about the same time. Hence, perhaps, the more common use now of the term Parkin, since even the common people make it, Parkin is invariably baked in tins. Th'ardcake was often baked in cakes on the oven bottom. With respect to the origin of the term Parkin, is it not likely that this variety of Th'ardcake was first made by some person of the name of Parkin, or was first made in some place of that name?

J. O.

Cathedral Yard.

QUERIES.

[3,739.] "LABORARE EST ORARE"—"To work honourably is to pray."—Who was the author of this phrase? or where can I find an account of the original use of it?

LEO.

[3,740.] LOYD, BUCHAN, AND WELSH.—When did Mr. Loyd, head of the above celebrated old firm of calico-printers, die? It was probably about 1849. Their warehouse was in Cannon-street.

G.

[3,741.] LEATHERTY PETCH.—The other day I overheard a man say, "I can't dance either a polka or any other dance, but I can dance 'leatherty-petch,'" at which there was a laugh. What does the word "leatherty-petch" mean?

J. T. C.

[3,742.] HENSHAW'S ASYLUM, OLD TRAFFORD.—Who was the Mr. Henshaw whose name is identified with the Blind Asylum at Old Trafford? Where did he reside? When did he die? Who did he marry? Did he marry a widow lady? If so, what was her first husband's name? And what had been her own maiden name?

G.

[3,743.] ARCHITECTS.—Who was the architect of the handsome building near the top of Mosley-street, formerly the Manchester and Salford Bank, and now occupied by the Messrs. Nichol, tailors? And who was the architect of the handsome block in York-street called "South Lancashire Bank Buildings"?

G.

Saturday, January 31, 1885.

NOTES.

BAGGIN.

[3,744.] Is there any warrant for the authors of the *Lancashire Glossary* saying (p. 22) that "baggin" is so called because "originally carried in a bag?" The quotations give none; in fact the earliest, from Tim Bobbin, is against it, as the dame had not carried bagging with her but had to come "whoam" for it. Is it not possible that it means "filling the bags," i.e. the stomach? Much will depend upon whether "bag," "bags," are so used in Lancashire; in south Scotland the use is very common. "He cares for nowcht sae lang as he gets his bags filled." "Sit doon, man, an' fill yer bags, an' let yer meit ditt [stop] yer mooth"—i.e. stop your talk. I had never dreamed that baggin' meant anything but "lining" in this sense; in fact, "tucking in."

Again, has not baggin a wider sense of "food" generally? Dickinson gives it thus in Cumberland, and I seem to have heard it so used.

The idea of a horse's bait being carried in a bag, or eaten from the nose-bag, has also been suggested, as if this were thence transferred—"a feed." There is a Scotch saying, "He's ay at the mooth-poke [nose-bag]," i.e. always tucking in or feeding.

The point rather influences the dictionary position of the word, so I shall be glad to get any opinions you can collect as soon as possible.

J. A. H. MURRAY.

Mill Hill, Middlesex, N.W.

* * *

[As an early preliminary reply was of moment to Dr. Murray, the opinion of Mr. Morgan Brierley was sought on the subject, and he kindly sent the following note, embodying, it will be observed, the opinion also of Mr. Henry Cunliffe, a most careful observer and an excellent authority on the dialect of Rossendale. Mr. Brierley's remarks, and some others, have been already despatched to Dr. Murray, but as more light on the subject is desired, they are here printed as a contribution to the discussion.—ED. M.C.N.]

I do not believe that anybody really knows that the meal called "baggin" is so designated because it is sometimes now, but oftener formerly, carried by workmen to their respective places of employment, morning and noon, in little bags; but there can be little or no doubt that such is the true explanation of it. I have so understood it, and Mr. Cunliffe says

it is so in Rossendale. I do not think any other explanation can be given of it. Of the custom there is no doubt, and in our mills it was applied to a middle forenoon meal, as well as to a middle afternoon one, when the day's labour was made up of more hours than it is now. It was as common to outdoor as to indoor workpeople.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

THE ISLE OF DOGS.

[3,745.] Some little time ago, a young lady visited Buxton, who belonged to a kind of Mutual Improvement Society, the members of which exchanged questions, periodically, on art, science, history, and literature, which they answered as best they could. Among other questions this member of the society received was:—"Why is the Isle of Dogs, near London, so named?" Away from her usual books of reference, she went to Bates's Library, in the Colonnade, but did not obtain the information she sought, for all that Johnstone's Universal Gazetteer gave was this:—

"DOGS (ISLE OF) or POPLAR MARSHES, a peninsula of the Thames, England, co. Middlesex, 3½m. E.S.E., St. Paul's Cathedral."

Then Lord Redesdale entered the library for his usual exchanges, and the fair inquirers did not hesitate to ask him for an answer, so eager were they in the pursuit of knowledge. "Don't know!" said his lordship. "And, in the first place, it is not an island. In fact, I never thought of it before!" As he left the library, he turned and delivered this happy thought, "Perhaps it is because there are so many wag-tails in it!" And with a characteristic chuckle at his own joke, he departed with his books under his arm.

Now, this little incident was forcibly recalled to mind only yesterday, when, turning over the leaves of *Owain Goch, a Tale of the Revolution* (Longman and Co., 1827), by the late William Bennett, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, author of *The Cavalier* and the *King of the Peak*, I found the following in the preface to that book. Two friends are discussing the merits of the Horse and the Dog, as faithful servants of Man, when one says of the Dog:—

His love is such as would make him creep, if he could, into his master's heart; his faithfulness is such to his master's goods and interests, that he will rather lose his own life than see his master's person or goods violated by ruffians or robbers. How full is history of the fidelity of a dog to his master, whether living or dead! How often have dogs pursued the murderers of their masters

till they have brought them to the gallows, as the Isle of Dogs, in the river Thames, testifies in the origin of that name, which was this: A gentleman, having a charge of money with him, and going down the river in a pair of oars, was murdered by the watermen, and cast upon, or buried, in that island. But the dog (unobserved by the rogues) lay by his master continually, till hunger urged him to swim over the river to Greenwich, where he ranged from house to house to get some food, which, when he had got, he swam back to the isle, still lying by his master, till hunger drove him a second time over to Greenwich about dinner time, and so from day to day until he came to be taken notice of by some of the inhabitants, who inquired one of another whose dog he should be that thus came daily over the river, and as soon as he had picked up a dinner crossed the river again. At length they resolved to follow him in a boat, which the dog seeing, seemed to rejoice, and with joy conducted them to the place where his dead master lay. These, upon deliberation with the rest of their townsmen, conjecturing it might be some Londoner murdered by watermen and cast there, resolved to go and take the dog with them, if possibly he might find out the murderers; accordingly, landing at the first stairs at Blackwall, they walked along, the dog still running before them, and hunting about every stairs and dock till it came to Queenhithe, and there the dog seized on a man, whom they carried before a justice of the peace, declaring the whole matter as related. The man, confounded with the evidence, confessed the fact, discovered his accomplice, and they both received the reward of their wickedness. Now can anything of this nature be said of horses?"

Henceforth, when I sail down the Thames, I shall look at the Isle of Dogs with greater interest.

J. C. BATES.

Thorncliffe, Buxton.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FOX-FIRE.

(Nos. 3,719, 3,723, and 3,733.)

[3,746.] The word "fox-fire," ROSS LANGHAM says, is a nautical corruption of the word "phosphorus." I beg to ask him if he ever heard a sailor use the term fox-fire when describing the phosphorescent appearance of the sea. To me it seems certain that "fox-fire" and "fox-glove" are words which have a common origin. Rhind, in his *History of the Vegetable Kingdom*, says that the beautiful plant known among us by the name of fox-glove is in Wales called "fairies' gloves." Fairies were often called folks, and to conciliate them, "the good folks;" hence, no doubt, the origin of the common name "folksaglove," and not as misspelt "foxglove." Folklore teaches us that fairies performed their gambols and held their entertainments during the night time. On these occasions light would be necessary; and, in

the absence of the moon, this was supplied by the shining wood, or "folks-fire," as it was called, from its being used by the folks or fairies. Thus we see that "fox-fire" was in its origin "folks-fire," and not phosphorus."

S. HEWITT.

Percival-street, C.-on-M.

LEATHERTY PETCH OR PATCH.

(Query No. 3,741, January 24.)

[3,747.] Dancing with one foot on the ground and the other never off.

J. OWEN.

* * *

Leatherty-petch, or leatherty-patch, as it is often called, is a sharp irregular clog or step dance, differing from an ordinary jig in that the heels and toes, instead of being raised to any extent, are rattled backward and forward very quickly, the right foot being generally in advance of the left. The term "leatherty-patch" evidently means that the practice of so dancing necessitates the frequent mending or patching of the dancer's boots or shoes, and this idea appears to me the only reasonable one, although, when a boy, I used to watch country children of both sexes perform the dance merely for the amusement of their parents and friends. There is, however, sometimes considerable difficulty in ascertaining the introduction of rustic habits and customs, and the precise origin and definition of this dance must, I fancy, be sought in the regions of obscurity.

SAM BANNISTER.

Greenheys.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

(Nos. 3,715, 3,724, and 3,735.)

[3,748.] In the year 1872 the present Mayor of Manchester and myself, after visiting many cities in Italy, spent some time in Rome, where we had the pleasure of an introduction to Mr. Shakspere Wood, who, on learning we were from Manchester, paid us marked attention and respect. One evening over dinner he told us he was a native of Manchester and was born in Oldham-street. He made many inquiries respecting local things which had impressed him when a boy. His curiosity astonished me when he inquired if the Failsworth maypole was still in existence as he remembered it in his childhood. Upon assuring him it was, he appeared much gratified. This circumstance would appear to confirm his connection with the farmhouse in Dob Lane, Failsworth, recorded by Mr. Waugh.

JOHN MILLING.

Victoria-street, Manchester.

* * *

Shakspeare Wood, I believe, was a native of Shudehill, Manchester. His father carried on some kind of business in the buildings now occupied by Messrs. J. J. Sale and Sons, Stevenson Square. Young Wood was a very delicate boy, and in consequence spent a good deal of his early boyhood at Bethel's farm, at the top of Mill Lane, Failsworth. Mr. John Bethel supplied the family with butter, which circumstance led to their acquaintance with Failsworth. The late Mr. Henry Walmsley, being in Rome at the time of the Paris Exhibition, was introduced to Mr. Gibson's studio, and during a conversation he had with Mr. Gibson he happened to say that he came from Failsworth. A young man hearing Failsworth mentioned laid down his hammer and chisel and joined in the conversation. He asked Mr. Walmsley if he knew Bethel's farm. Of course he knew it, as anyone else would know living in Failsworth. This elicited from the young man the story of his early life, as I have given it in brief. That young man was Shakspeare Wood. Mr. Walmsley was so struck with one of Mr. Wood's works, a statuette of "Evangeline," from Longfellow's poem of that name, that he bought it; and gave him a commission for its companion, "Gabriel." If I remember rightly, these cost Mr. Walmsley 400 guineas. I have seen the pair, but whose hands they have passed into since Mr. Walmsley's death I do not know; but I have seen them recently at some exhibition, or bazaar, I cannot tell which, but it was in Manchester. They are exquisite works of art; and may some day be better known. The story I have given I had from Mr. Walmsley's own lips.

BEN BRIERLEY.

St. Oswald's Grove, Manchester.

HENSHAW, FOUNDER OF THE BLIND ASYLUM.

(Query No. 3,742, January 24.)

[3,749.] As great-grand nephew of Thomas Henshaw, the founder of the Oldham Blue-coat School and Old Trafford Asylum for the Blind, I beg to state that he, in conjunction with his younger brother Henry (after whom I was named, and of whom I possess an oil-portrait, painted a little before his decease), established a hat manufactory in Oldham about the middle of last century, perhaps the largest one of the kind then existing in the country, causing the hat trade to become the staple one of the neighbourhood long before cotton spinning took the

lead. They subsequently admitted into partnership Thomas Barker, George Hadfield (my father), James and John Taylor—the last two named being sons of a Mr. Taylor, whose widow Mr. Thomas Henshaw had married. Besides the stepsons above-named, the said widow had two daughters, one of whom married Mr. Edward Jones Lloyd, banker, residing at Cheetham Hill, and the other Mr. Armitage, an extensive woollen cloth manufacturer, of Millsbrig, near Huddersfield.

Mr. Thomas Henshaw at an advanced age was found drowned some eighty-two years ago in the mill dam pertaining to his own works at Hargreaves, Oldham (a supposed case of suicide), which led to a disastrous lawsuit, at least to my grandmother, who was Mr. Henshaw's heir presumptive, and to his widow, who joined in an action against a Mr. Atkinson, who, though no relative, was left, I believe, sole executor, and to whom the bulk of Mr. Henshaw's property was bequeathed. The case caused great excitement at the time and induced, it was supposed, the said Mr. A. to retire to the Continent.

HENRY HENSHAW HADFIELD.

Oak House, Pendleton.

* * *

The entry of the wedding of Mr. Henshaw in the Cathedral register is:—

1799, Sept. 26. Thomas Henshaw, of Oldham, hat manufacturer, and Sarah Taylor, of Blackley, widow.

I may have Sarah Taylor's previous wedding, but I know nothing to identify her first husband.

JOHN OWEN.

THE STRETTFORD STONE.

(No. 3,737 and others.)

[3,750.] I am of opinion with Mr. STARKIE that it is very improbable that the Stretford stone ever formed the base of a cross. Over twenty years ago, in company with my friend the late Mr. John Higson, we examined the stone. It is an oblong coarse grit stone, foreign to the locality, quite different to the Collyhurst stone of which the Romans made extensive use. We found it measured in extreme length five feet four inches, in breadth about two feet, and height about three feet. On the upper surface are two cavities divided by a ridge or moulding, and measuring thirteen inches long, eight inches broad, and about seven inches in depth. It is apparently of that class termed travelled stones. It was probably brought hereabouts and deposited in a

manner similar to the huge boulders now to be seen in the Manchester public parks.

My impression is that it was used, though perhaps not for the first time, in 1605. Owing to the Plague in that year there was no Court Leet held in October, otherwise there might have been some mention of it. In 1645, owing to civil commotions and the Plague which visited Manchester, no Court Leets are recorded to have been held, so that we have no account of the stone but from tradition, and that is pretty strong.

The late Dr. Kendrick, in his account of the Latchford Plague stone, says the stone formed part of the rounded coping of the court yard of the picturesque house in Wash Lane, and during the continuance of the pestilence, and while all communication with the inmates was cut off, the money in payment for provisions and other necessities, in order to disinfect it, was deposited in the square hollow of the stone in a mixture of vinegar and water. Combating a late idea that there were no such things as plague stones, which arose out of the fact that no fewer than ten of these so-called had been proved to be the sockets of wayside crosses, the doctor has satisfactorily shown that this stone never could have been the foot of a cross, since its cavity was only four and a half inches square and only two inches deep, and that it was placed on private property forty yards from the high road. The doctor then describes finding some human remains at the back of the house in Wash Lane, in a field called the Brown Field, having been directed by an old man who had the story from his grandmother. The remains were found under a flat sandstone, and seemed to have been hastily buried, as there were no traces of wood or nails indicative of the interment having been made in a coffin.

As regards the old cross formerly existing in Stretford, the following is what I gleaned in 1860. More than forty years previously the old cross was taken down and removed. It stood a few yards from the Trafford Arms, on a piece of vacant ground. Judging from the situation of the older houses around, it must have once been in the centre of a tolerably large open space, no doubt representing the old village green. The pedestal of the cross was ascended by a square flight of stone steps, surmounted by a large block also square, with the angles beveled off, into which was inserted the shaft of the cross, some eight feet in length, but the upper portion or arms was gone. Within a few feet of the

cross stood the stocks, the uprights being of stone, grooved and fitted up in the usual way. One "Owd Tommy Hales," it is said, was the last person incarcerated for being drunk and disorderly one Sunday morning. Somehow soon after that event the stocks shared the fate of the cross. All the stones were removed, and carried away for various purposes, excepting the square block or plinth, which was taken to the other side of the Trafford Arms, at the corner of Urmston Lane. There it was turned to a fresh use, being turned wrong side up to serve as a "horsing block," as well as to protect the angle of the building from cars and other passing vehicles.

Since then the old stone has been transferred to the old burying-ground, where it is now fixed, with the pillar of the ancient sundial, but the dial has since 1860 disappeared. It was inscribed "J. L., Manchester, 1699."

JOHN OWEN.

* * *

A few weeks back, when walking from Bollington to Disley, and passing Pott Shrigley, I was much struck with an ancient-looking cross in the churchyard. I made inquiries of the minister, who informed me that it was a very old custom to erect such crosses, but at the Reformation they were swept away. Pott Shrigley somehow escaped. That the Stretford Stone has been the base of a cross seems beyond doubt. May it not originally have had simply a mortice hole for a cross, the second hole being made at the time of the Plague? This idea, I think, is strengthened by the fact that the surface of the base is on one side depressed—possibly by friction. As has been pointed out, there are other stones at Glossop, Disley, and Whaley Moor, and the two former places would certainly have had churches anterior to the Reformation. Whaley itself is in the parish of Taxal, and to quote from a notice of the latter place in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of England*, published in 1835—"In the churchyard were, till within the last three years, the steps and shaft of an ancient cross, which were demolished by the present incumbent." Is it possible that the Stretford Stone formed the base of one of these heretical crosses?

JAMES HIGSON, jun.

QUERIES.

[3,751.] BEAR'S PAW, CHOWBENT.—What is the origin of the above sign at a public-house in Chowbent? Is it a family crest; and, if so, what family?

CATHERINE BRADLEY.

[3,752.] THE MANCHESTER MERCURY.—I have heard it stated that the *Manchester Mercury* (Harrop's) in its day was the largest newspaper printed. Can any of your correspondents state if this is true?

D. V.

[3,753.] RAILWAY FROM REDDISH TO ROMILEY. Required: The name and date of the Act of Parliament conferring powers to construct the Sheffield and Midland Railways Committee's Railway from Reddish to Romiley, or where a copy of the Act can be seen.

G.

[3,754.] INSCRIPTION IN REATHER-STREET METHODIST CHAPEL.—Can any one explain the meaning of the hieroglyphics on the inside wall of the Methodist Chapel in Reather-street, Oldham Road? I have heard that there is a curious legend connected with them.

W. HANSON.

[3,755.] GREAT STONE FARM, STRETFORD.—Can any of your correspondents inform me when a farmer named Gibson kept the above farm? I have heard my father say he was a veterinary surgeon as well as a farmer. Was one of the cottages opposite the above farm ever kept as a beerhouse; and about what year?

S. W. T.

[3,756.] BELL AT LYMM.—One of the bells in the tower of St. Mary's, Lymm, bears the following inscription:—

Ectoniæ
Henricus Penn
Fecit.

Can any of your readers say if this refers to Ecton near Wellingborough; and, if so, was this a well-known foundry? The bell bears no date, but probably was cast early in the eighteenth century.

G. H. BAYLEY.

[3,757.] BOULDER IN CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK.—I have seen no mention as yet of a very large boulder stone that fifty years ago stood at the Brook-street end of Hughes-street, a little street near Grosvenor-street, C.-on-M. When a boy I played round it many a time, and I was told that it was thrown there by a giant, the same who threw the one on the Chester Road, near Platford's Hotel. It was worn smooth on the sides. Some years after, passing the same place, I found the street had been paved and sewered and the stone was taken away. Can any of your readers say what became of it?

J. ADAMSON.

Saturday February 7, 1885.

NOTES.

"EXPRESS" TRAINS.

[3,757.] The recent establishment of a species of train known as the "special express," directs attention to the origin and precise signification of the word "express" in connection with railway working. Although the term is now so familiar, and has become part and parcel of our common speech, it is not by any means coeval with the railway system. The original division of trains was into first and second-class, according to the carriages of which they were composed, and the stations at which they called, the distinction between first and second-class stations being then clear and precise. To these were added "mixed trains," conveying both classes of passengers and calling at all stations, and, subsequently, third-class trains devoted exclusively to third-class passengers. It was not until 1845 that express trains began to run, at any rate to Manchester. In the *Manchester Guardian* of the third of May in that year appears the following:—

On Thursday last, the first of May, as announced by advertisement in the papers, the express train from Manchester to London and from London to Manchester commenced running. The down train leaves London at four o'clock in the afternoon, and reaches Manchester at or before ten o'clock in the same evening, performing the entire distance in *six hours or less*. As one result of the acceleration of the trains, our readers will perceive in another column extracts from the London evening papers of yesterday, which we received at ten o'clock last night.

Once established, express trains seem to have speedily become popular. The London express was followed almost immediately by one to Lytham, Blackpool, and Fleetwood, on the 14th July by one to Leeds, and on the 15th September by one to Liverpool. In all these announcements the word "express" is used without explanation, as though it were a term fully understood by the public, and as it had previously been in use to signify any means for the rapid transmission of intelligence, we should doubtless be right in assuming that it was adopted from this source. This use of the word is illustrated by an announcement made in the *Guardian* in the early days of 1845: "We have received by special express the overland mail from Bombay;" and by the still familiar "Morning Express" of our present newspapers. Readers of Goldsmith will remember that in

The Good-natured Man Mr. Lofty came "close upon the heels of his own express."

An express train has until recently represented the highest perfection of the railway service, but the course of development seems likely to rob it of this distinction. Express trains have increased in number of late years with such rapidity as to bring them relatively down to an ordinary level, and from them is now being evolved a higher species which requires a distinctive name. On the first of July, 1883, the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and Great Northern companies established what they called the "special express" between Manchester and London, performing the distance in four hours and a half, a period reduced twelve months later to four hours and a quarter. The term "special express" has since been adopted by the Midland Company and applied to certain new trains between the same places. In both cases the distinction seems to be that, while ordinary express trains are available for many intermediate stations and junctions, and have many connecting trains, the special express aims only at its ultimate destination (Manchester or London), disdaining all connections, and stopping only where absolutely necessary for coal and water. The fact is, I think, noteworthy in these days of depressed trade and lamentations over the decadence of England, that companies which have hitherto filled up their express trains from separate rills of traffic flowing in at Guide Bridge, Godley, Marple, and many other junctions, should now be able to run whole trains for the sake of Manchester, calling in the one case only at Sheffield and Grantham, and in the other at Leicester and Kentish Town. As an indication of increasing travel and growing prosperity, we shall do well to welcome the advent of the special express.

W. H.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

(No. 3,748 and others.)

[3,758.] The two statues, Evangeline and Gabriel, the works of the above artist referred to by Mr. BEN BRIERLEY in Note No. 3,748, are now the property of Councillor George Clay, who kindly lent them for exhibition to the Queen's Park Art Museum.

J. MILLING.

Victoria-street, Manchester.

THE GREAT STONE FARM, STRETFORD.

(Query No. 3,755, January 31.)

[3,759.] In 1825, and for many years both previous and subsequent, the chief veterinary surgeon and livery stable keeper in Manchester was Gibson. His business premises were in Back Piccadilly and Little Lever-street, opposite corner to the "Wellington." He and his family (Roman Catholics) lived at Stretford, and were patronized by the Traffords. I think he came from their Croston estate. When a lad of eight years old I was taken by one of Gibson's grooms to Trafford, he having medicine for one of the horses there.

JAMES BURY.

RAILWAY FROM REDDISH TO ROMILEY.

(Query No. 3,753, Jan. 31.)

[3,760.] This railway was authorized by the Manchester and Stockport Railway Act 1866 (29 and 30 Vict., ch. ccvii). By the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and Midland Railway Companies (Joint Lines) Act 1869 (32 and 33 Vict., ch. xxv.) the Manchester and Stockport Railway Company (which had never had any but a nominal existence, and had taken no steps to carry out the objects of its incorporation,) was dissolved, and its powers were transferred to the Sheffield and Midland Railway Companies Committee thereby incorporated. Copies of these Acts can be seen by qualified persons at the Law Library in Cross-street.

W. H.

LABORARE EST ORARE.

(Query No. 3,739, January 24.)

[3,761.] This proverb may be derived from St. Augustine's "Qui laborat, orat"—he who labours, prays. The idea is carried out by George Herbert thus:—

A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine,
Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
Makes that and th' action fine.

St. Augustine, while impressed by the dignity of labour and the magnitude of the field of operation, may also have intended to signify by "laborat" the earnest striving of a soul seeking after God in prayer too deep and real for utterance in words (Rom. 8, 26). A companion Latin proverb runs thus, "Di nobis laboribus omnia vendunt"—The gods sell us everything for our labours.

M. G.

HENSHAW OF THE BLIND ASYLUM.

(Nos. 3,742 and 3,749.)

[3,762.] In Palmer's MS. Pedigrees I find the following entries:—"Taylor, of Crumpsall. Joseph, son of John Taylor, married Sarah, daughter of Mr. Philip Mayer, of Manchester, tobacconist, at the Collegiate Church, June 14th, 1781." She afterwards married Thomas Henshaw, as stated, in September, 1799.

J. LEIGH.

[Mr. Giles Shaw, of Oldham, Mr. Tavaré, and Mr. James Johnson, of Cheetham Hill, and other correspondents, have sent biographical notices of Thomas Henshaw quoted from Baines's Lancashire, Butterworth's History of Oldham, Booker's Prestwich, and Hulbert's Annals of Almondbury. It is sufficient to point out that accounts of Henshaw will be found in these books, all of which can be consulted at the free libraries.—EDITOR.]

THE MANCHESTER MERCURY.

(Query No. 3,752, January 31.)

[3,763.] The *Manchester Mercury* on December 5, 1804, was increased from twenty to twenty-four columns, and contained the following paragraph:—

The proprietor hereof tenders to a liberal public his grateful acknowledgments for the favour and support conferred upon his revered predecessor and himself for a period of fifty-three years, and embraces this opportunity of stating that he has increased the size of his paper to the unprecedented extent of six columns in each page, or four more than hitherto given, making in the whole an addition of upwards of six hundred lines, an alteration which, in quantity of matter, renders the *Manchester Mercury* incontrovertibly the largest newspaper published in the British Empire, which a comparison with all others will clearly prove. The principal motive, however, by which the printer's mind is actuated in adopting this enlarged plan, he thinks it necessary to state. Convinced that the present perturbed state of Europe is portentous of events of the utmost moment, and that the womb of coming time is pregnant with such important deeds as may astonish mankind, he has determined on this material change, in order that he may be enabled to avail himself of every opportunity of presenting his readers with the most ample details of all passing transactions, foreign and domestic, political and local. Impressed with this very weighty consideration he has, at a very considerable expense, made this extensive and unexampled arrangement, confident that the purity of his motives, and his unceasing endeavours to please, will be duly appreciated by a discerning public.

FRED LEARY.

Clock Alley, Manchester.

* * *

It is difficult to tell if Harrop's *Mercury* was the largest printed local newspaper in its day, as it varied in size. In 1752, when it started, it consisted of four

small pages of three columns to the page. In 1791, of two contemporaries, Harrop's *Manchester Mercury* and Wheeler's *Manchester Chronicle*, the latter was slightly larger. They both consisted of four pages, larger than the *Mercury* of 1752, and contained four columns in each page. In 1796 Harrop's *Mercury* was again enlarged to four pages of five columns a page. In the same year Cowdroy's *Manchester Gazette* was about the same size, but somewhat better printed. There is little doubt that the *Manchester Mercury* had the largest circulation. It was certainly the most prosperous of its many contemporaries, existing as it did for nearly 79 years. A brief account of this newspaper will be found in *City News Notes and Queries* for August 16, 1884 (3,581).

E. MACKAY YOUNG.

Manchester.

FOX-FIRE.

(Nos. 3,719, 3,723, 3,733, and 3,746.)

[3,764.] Mr. HEWITT, in reply to Mr. ROSS LANGHAM, says: "I beg to ask him if he ever heard a sailor use the term fox-fire when describing the phosphorescent appearance of the sea." On a recent voyage to South America I got into conversation with a quarter-master one evening when the sea was more than usually luminous. The "old salt" used the expression fox-fire several times. The first time I thought I misunderstood him, but was convinced to the contrary on the repetition of the term. It occurred to me at the time that this was a nautical corruption of the word phosphorus.

GEORGE S. MADLEY.

* * *

Mr. HEWITT's suggestion as to the origin of this word, although very ingenious, appears to me rather too far-fetched. Do the Welsh people call shining wood "folk's-fire," or even "fairies'-fire?" I have often heard Norfolk and Lincolnshire people call the fen-fire "false-fire," which is identical in meaning with ignis fatuus; and the light both of "fox-fire" and "false-fire" is from a common source, viz., decayed vegetable matter. "False-fire" has no doubt descended from A.N. "fallax-fer," and means the same thing.

W. S. BARLOW.

Bury.

BAGGIN.

(Note No. 3,744, January 31.)

[3,765.] I do not know what the origin of the term "Baggin" may be, but that it was commonly

understood to mean the afternoon meal in a village of Horwich, at the foot of Rivington Pike in Lancashire, the following anecdote will show. Peter Gaskill, my grandfather, had a cotton mill in the village. The inspector one day at the mill asked a girl "What time do you go to your tea?" "Eh?" said the girl, not understanding the question. My grandfather said "Let me ask her." "What time dost go to thi baggin." Four o'clock was the quick response

EDWIN COLLIER.

Salford.

* * *

This word appears to me to be a corruption of the word "fagging"—tiring: "fagged"—tired, wearied. It could scarcely have "originated" in the custom of carrying food in small bags to be eaten in the workshops or mills between meals. In Yorkshire the "forenoon-baggin" and the "afternoon-baggin" are as much home meals as out-door meals, and have so been used for considerably over a century. Halliwell gives bagging-time—baiting-time, North.; and goes on to say: At Bury, co. Lanc., about the year 1780, a refreshment between dinner and supper was called "bagging." The word has, invariably, relation to food, most probably the food taken at "fagging-time"—i.e., when fagging or wearying with work. Small bags are not used here in the manner described in the *Lancashire Glossary*. The commonest things in the world, though, are the small baggin-cans in which tea, coffee, or other drinks are carried, and which are made specially for the purpose, the lid being provided with a small handle and straight rim, for greater convenience in drinking.

Bury.

W. S. BARLOW.

QUERIES.

[3,766.] THE TURKISH EMBLEM.—What is the origin and meaning of the crescent moon as the Turkish emblem?

P. PRIESTNALL,

Institut Mackean, Naples.

[3,767.] RANDOLPHUS.—What was the original meaning of the name Randolphus? Is it from the German or is it Danish? Can it be English? If so, what is its root?

J. WOOD.

Bolton.

[3,768.] TIME IN NEW ZEALAND.—Is the time at Auckland, New Zealand, before or after the time in England? At twelve noon in London it is 11 45 p.m. in New Zealand. Is this the same or the previous day; and why so?

F. S. A.

Saturday February 14, 1885.

NOTES.

HI LONG VI TONG!

[3,769.] In my younger days, a singularly reserved and out-of-the-way character, widely and familiarly known, used to perambulate the streets of most Lancashire towns, taking them by turns, selling brimstone matches, or "spunks," as they were called. He was well known by the sobriquet of "Hi long Vi tong," from the peculiar and not unmusical monotone in which he sung out the wares he had to dispose of. Many of your older readers will remember the strange old man. Can any of them give particulars of his birth, parentage, and death; whether he was of foreign nationality, and the circumstances which led him to ply his singular calling? Sitting by the fireside of a winter evening, I can still in imagination hear his sonorous chant rising above the wind, "Hi long vi tong de netti, hi long vi tong." My wife tells me that her mother, however large her stock of brimstone might be, would always spare a few pence for another supply when poor old "Hi long vi tong" made his appearance.

T. N.

MANOR COURTS.

[3,770.] I recently had the opportunity of inspecting the Court Rolls, beginning in 1700, of a Lancashire Manor. By far the greater portion of entries related to ditches, but a few of the others may be of interest to your readers. Many were orders for removal, such as orders to persons named "to remove his sister R—— out of the town before" a given day, or "to turn her servant woman away or give security to please the inhabitants." Another person was ordered "to take in no Tablers or Lodgers which shall become troublesome to the inhabitants." Several persons were ordered "to give security or hire their servants from quarter to quarter." One man was fined "for carrying sprinklings of the Lord's Land," and several "for taking in inmates contrary to the Town's consent." Is "Tablers" a well understood word, and did it mean the same as lodgers? What does "carrying sprinklings of the Lord's Land" mean?

B.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

RANDOLPHUS.

(Query No. 3,767, February 7.)

[3,771.] Fair-help is the meaning of Randolph, of which the Latin form is Ranulphus, and the surname Randalls a corruption.

A. S.

THE ISLE OF DOGS.

(Note No. 3,745, January 31.)

[3,772.] I think the explanation of the origin of the name as given in the preface to the *Tale of the Revolution* would have been better embodied in the "tale" itself. In any case, if it were true, should it not have been Dog Island? Dr. Brewer gives a more reasonable explanation in saying: "When Greenwich was a place of royal residence, the kennel for the monarch's hounds was on the opposite side of the river; hence called the Isle of Dogs."

MIRROTAMOTT.

INSCRIPTION AT REATHER-STREET METHODIST CHAPEL.

(Query No. 3,754, January 31.)

[3,773.] The stone containing an inscription about which Mr. HANSON inquires was removed a few months ago, with the sanction of the elders, by (I believe) Mr. Kay, on purpose to have it restored, as it had broken into three pieces, but it has not yet been replaced in the wall. The inscription, as near as I remember, was as follows:—

Al	.	.	MT	.	.	Po
RCO	.	.	O	.	R	R
NAS	.	.	N	.	I	Y

18^A_Y 03

Perhaps some one can supply the full inscription and give the legend, if any, connected with it.

JOHN CRISPIN.

THE TURKISH EMBLEM.

(Query No. 3,766, February 7.)

[3,774.] Mr. PRIESTNALL asks, what is the origin and meaning of the Crescent Moon as the Turkish emblem? This device of the Ottoman Empire is of great antiquity. It was the symbol of the City of Byzantium (the present Constantinople) before the Turks took possession of it. The Turks adopted the device, and have used it from then up to the present time. The origin is said to be as follows:—Philip, the father of Alexander the Great, meeting with great difficulties in carrying on the siege of Byzan-

tium, set the workmen, on a very dark night, to undermine the walls, that his troops might enter the city without being perceived; but, luckily for the besieged, the crescent moon appeared, and the design was thereby frustrated. In acknowledgment of this deliverance the Byzantines erected a statue to Diana and adopted the crescent as their symbol.

C. DAGGATT.

BAGGIN.

(Nos. 3,744 and 3,765.)

[3,775.] I venture to differ from Mr. Morgan Brierley in regard to the word baggin. As lads, fifty years or more ago, we took our baggins with us at the dinner time wrapped in cloth or paper—never in a bag—and they were for the four o'clock meal, the engine stopping some fifteen or twenty minutes for the same. Mill hours then extended from 5 30 a.m. to 7 30 p.m., so that three meals each day at the mills were necessary. Some would take all the meals with them in the early morning; others would send home for them. The morning meal I never heard called anything but porridge or breakfast time, and the afternoon meal always without exception baggin time. The term "tea" was not understood at that day to be a meal. You might get a cup of tea, or you could buy tea at 5s. to 6s. per pound. It was considered a kind of luxury, and was not understood to mean a meal. I therefore contend that in and around Manchester the term baggin time was then used as our now "tea time," and was never used for a morning meal.

W. H.

Cornbrook.

* * *

I have always understood the term baggin to mean the food carried in the Lancashire workman's bag, to be eaten as a luncheon or a dinner, and have described it as such. The low phrase, "blowing out his bags," is not unknown to me as a gastronomic feat which may be as old as Jack the Giant Killer, but I have never—in the days when I was a Lancashire lass—known the word "baggin" to refer to "tea" or fluid in tin cans. In Durham and Northumberland the pitmen call the bag in which their food supply is carried a "bait-poke."

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

TIME IN NEW ZEALAND.

(Query No. 3,763, February 7.)

[3,776.] Time in New Zealand is before that of England, because, lying as it does about 165 degrees east longitude from Greenwich, twelve noon at Auck-

land would have taken place $11\frac{1}{2}$ hours before it was due to occur at Greenwich. 11 45 p.m. at Auckland would therefore correspond with twelve noon in London, and would be part of the same day.

The earth makes a complete revolution on its axis in twenty-four hours, turning from west to east; consequently, if Auckland had happened to have been at the true antipodes, or say 180 degrees longitude from Greenwich—which would be half the circumference of the globe—there would just have been twelve hours difference of time between the two places. A simple example of the whole operation may be found by passing a wire through the flattened ends of an orange, to represent the poles of the earth. Draw a line through these poles circumscribing the whole surface of the orange, thus dividing it into two equal parts or hemispheres. Call one Eastern and the other Western. Place each of the towns, London and Auckland, in their relative positions; and then, by turning the orange round from west to east before a gaslight to represent the sun, you will have a comprehensive illustration of the problem. If, further, the orange be peeled, the divisional lines may be construed into a fair representation of the meridian.

JOHN SMETHURST.

St. Ann's Square.

* * *

For purposes of computation of time the day is supposed to begin at Greenwich (marked long. 0 degree) at twelve midnight. As the earth turns on its own axis towards the east, the day begins later and later westward from Greenwich at the rate of 15 degrees to the hour. Now, Auckland, New Zealand, is 185 degrees west from Greenwich, therefore the day does not begin there until it is 12 15 noon at Greenwich. Therefore, at midnight Greenwich it is 11 45 a.m. at Auckland, and therefore the following day at noon it is only 11 45 p.m. of the first day at Auckland, and therefore the time at Auckland is after that in England.

W. J. HERRING.

Werneth High School, Oldham.

QUERIES.

[3,777.] BEESWING IN PORT—What is the meaning of the beeswing in a glass of port wine?

L. J. REUSS.

[3,778.] ABBOTS OF THE VALE ROYAL.—Can any reader furnish me with the names of the principal

Abbots of the ancient abbey of Vale Royal, Cheshire; also say if any of them rose to prominence, and the best books to refer to for such information?

DELAMERE FOREST.

[3,779.] THE LETTER H IN SHAKSPEARE.—Can any one throw light upon the following passage in *Much Ado About Nothing*, act iii., scene 3:—

BEATRICE.—By my troth, I am exceeding ill, heigho!

MARGARET.—For a hawk, a horse, or a husband?

BEATRICE.—For the letter that begins them all, H.

What does Beatrice mean in the last passage?

A. ELTON.

[3,780.] THE CLOWES FAMILY.—Was the celebrated Rev. John Clowes, for many years rector of St. John's, and noted for his Swedenborgian bias, one of the same family as the Clowes of Broughton Hall? If so, how connected? And who was the sometime Miss Clowes of Hunt's Bank? What was the name of her mansion there? Is there any connection between our Manchester Broughton and Broughton-in-Furness?

G.

AN EPITAPH BY ROBERT BURNS.—An unpublished and characteristic epitaph by Burns has been unearthed by a Dumfries journal:—

Beneath these sods lies drunken Rhodes,
Wha ne'er was kenned to drink cauld water,
Like clack o' mill the whisky gill
Inspired his tongue wi' endless clatter.

BRITISH CAPITAL IN SOUTH AFRICA.—The public debt of South Africa is returned by Mr. Merriman, the South African Minister of Public Works, at £20,810,000 at the close of 1883. This total was classified by Mr. Merriman as follows:—Railways, £12,700,000; harbours, £1,602,000; bridges, £392,000; loans to public bodies, £232,000; sundry public works, immigration, telegraphs, and gaols, £950,000; war, £4,473,000; deficiency of income before 1870, £464,000; total, £20,810,000. Of this total Mr. Merriman regarded £4,936,000 as unproductive, and the balance as reproductive expenditure. In comparing its gross indebtedness to the Australian group of colonies the Cape owes less than Victoria, New South Wales, and New Zealand, but more than Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania. The debt of Natal (£2,554,000), the greater part of which was incurred for the construction of railways, being added to the debt of the Cape Colony, makes the total liability towards the public creditors of South Africa at the close of 1883, £23,364,000, to which Mr. Merriman considers must be added the capital invested in private companies, loans on real estate, and mercantile credits. Altogether Mr. Merriman arrives at the conclusion that he is within the mark in assuming that £40,000,000 is owing to Great Britain by South Africa.

Saturday, February 21, 1885.

NOTES.

THE ARMS OF MANCHESTER.

[3,781.] Noticing the addition to the heading of your last issue (to wit, the city arms), I am constrained to ascertain the history conveyed thereby, as I have always understood that each of its component parts commemorates some historical fact or legend. I have glanced into the *Official Handbook* for the city, and find there the following note and description:—

The arms of the Corporation of Manchester were granted by the Heralds' College, March 1st, 1842. They are thus described in the grant:—Gules, three bendlets enhanced, or, a chief argent thereon, on waves of the sea a ship under sail proper; and, for the crest, on a wreath of the colours a terrestrial globe sémée of bees volant, all proper. Supporters: On the dexter side an heraldic antelope, argent, attired, collared, and chain reflexed over the back, or, and on the sinister side a lion guardant, or, murally crowned, gules, each charged on the shoulder with a rose of the last. Motto: Concilio et labore.

Will some of your readers well versed in heraldic nomenclature and literature translate this into readable English, and explain the various terms, and the why and wherefore of their use? The finest specimen I know is the one done in colours in front of the organ in the Town Hall.

Heaton Chapel.

EBOR.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE LETTER H IN SHAKSPEARE.

(Query No. 3,779, February 14.)

[3,782.] A correspondent asks if anyone can throw light on the following passage in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Act iii., sc. 3:—

BEATRICE: By my troth I am exceeding ill, helgho!

MARGARET: For a hawk, a horse, or a husband?

BEATRICE: For the letter that begins them all, H.

The only explanation I can offer is that in Shakspeare's time our word ache—not the verb but the substantive—was pronounced as if spelt aitch. This being so, Beatrice's reply is as witty as it is clear. "I am sighing," she says, "for the letter that begins hawk, horse, and husband." In plain words she has an "aitch" in her heart for Benedick.

Singularly enough, the raising of this question recalls to mind a curiously interesting passage in our

theatrical history, in which no less eminent a personage than John Philip Kemble figured. In Boaden's *Memoirs* we read as follows:—

After the conclusion of so fierce a storm as the O. P. riots, the reader may be glad of an opportunity to discuss some points of a pure literary character, in which Mr. Kemble himself will assign his reasons for a peculiar pronunciation or a preferable emphasis. We have just seen that the rioters who advocated the old prices, had, among their other qualifications, assumed those of the critic, and made themselves, at all events, extremely merry with the sound of the word "aches." Among the performances of Mr. Kemble his Prospero had excited remarkable notice from the groundlings, not so much from the awful dignity or paternal goodness which were certainly to be found in it, as from a single word in a speech of the Magician to Caliban, which Mr. Kemble dared to pronounce agreeably to the intention of Shakspeare. It occurs in the second scene of Act I.

If thou neglect'st or dost unwillingly
What I command, I'll wrack thee with old cramps;
Fill all thy bones with achës; make thee roar
That beasts shall tremble at thy din.

The reader here sees that the line would be incomplete if the disputed word were not pronounced as a word of two syllables.

On the subject of this painful word "akes," disputes often arose in society, and this topic, as is usual, was argued with more heat than knowledge. On one such occurrence the difference of opinion terminated in a bet; the most proper thing in the world, as presumption ought undoubtedly to pay for its ignorance or its obstinacy. Mr. Rees, of Paternoster Row, although sufficiently confident of Mr. Kemble's practice and its motive, addressed a letter to him, the answer to which was as follows:—My dear sir, I never do pronounce the word "aches" in two syllables (like the word aitches), but when the metre of a verse requires it. So much for the wager. The old pronunciation of the word "aches" in two syllables is so entirely laid aside in common conversation and in all modern use that it would be ridiculous indeed to use it familiarly, and idle to attempt its revival in poetical composition: yet when the word occurs as a dissyllable in our elder poets it must be so pronounced. These lines are in Pope's *Essay on Man*:—

Ask of thy mother Earth why oaks are made
Taller or stronger than the weeds they shade?
Or ask of yonder argent fields above
Why Jove's satellites are less than Jove?

The word "satellites" is now-a-days pronounced in three syllables, and a man would be a coxcomb to affect to pronounce it otherwise; but it was pronounced as four in Mr. Pope's time, and he employs it as four; and a man would be thought very ignorant who, in reciting Pope's lines, should destroy their metre by giving this

word its modern pronunciation. I beg pardon for taking up your time with so much of this uninteresting matter. J. P. KEMBLE. May 13, 1816. Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury Square.

FRANK H.

* * *

Knight's Shakspeare gives the following note in explanation of Beatrice's speech:—

An epigram by Heywood, 1566, explains this jest; and gives us the old pronunciation of "ache," to which John Kemble adhered in spite of "the groundlings":—

It is among worse letters of the cross row;
For if thou find him either in thine elbow,
In thine arm or leg, in any degree;
In thine head, or teeth, or toe, or knee;
Into what place soever H may pike him,
Wherever thou find "ache" thou shalt not like him.

A friend has pointed out that even in the time of Sir Richard Blackmore "aches" was pronounced as a dissyllable:—

Cripples with aches and with age opprest,
Crawl on their crutches to the grave for rest.

ALICE M. LAMB.

Polygon, Ardwick.

TIME IN NEW ZEALAND.

(Nos. 3,768 and 3,776.)

[3,783.] I doubt whether either of the replies forming No. 3,776 gives the information which F.S.A. intended his query to draw forth. Indeed the second reply is hopelessly incorrect; first in describing Auckland as lying *west* of Greenwich, and secondly in stating that the time there is later than in England. The question which F.S.A. probably wished to raise may, I think, be expressed by the somewhat paradoxical inquiry "Where does yesterday end and to-morrow begin?" and before endeavouring to give an answer some preliminary examination of the subject is necessary.

In the first place it is clear that at a given moment of time it is not the same day of the week or month in all parts of the world (except for one single immeasurable instant in every 24 hours.) When it is midday here it is midnight at the meridian of our antipodes, and the question then arises, Supposing with us it is midday of Tuesday the fourth of July, have our friends on the other side of the globe only just finished yesterday, Monday the 3rd, or are they just beginning to-morrow, Wednesday the 5th? In either case it is necessary to take some meridian or dividing line as the starting and finishing point of each successive day of the week and month, and the effect of fixing such a meridian will be that, whilst

on the westerly side of the line the date is, say, Monday the tenth of a given month, on the easterly side it will be Sunday the ninth. Where, then, should the line be drawn?

Some years ago I ascertained from a friend in New Zealand that the time there is about $11\frac{1}{2}$ hours *before* our time. Consequently the supposed meridian must lie to the east of New Zealand, somewhere out in the Pacific Ocean, and as any land intersected by such meridian would consist of small islands, this would appear to be a very convenient place.

To English people the most natural division would be the meridian of 180° east and west of Greenwich. But inasmuch as some nations do not reckon from Greenwich, they would, perhaps, wish to calculate from their own starting point. Hence, those using the meridian of Paris, of Washington, or of the Island of Ferro in the Canaries, as the basis of their calculations, would probably fail to agree with us as to where the dividing line should be drawn. Consequently we should have certain places where the date would vary (though in theory only) according to the meridian adopted by each individual calculator.

But supposing that some meridian were ascertained to exist, or were agreed on by the civilized nations of the world, as the universal starting point of each date, some curious results would follow. Should the meridian happen to intersect a town, and the principle of change of date were strictly carried out in the districts lying on each side of the meridian, a man passing through the town from east to west might walk out of Saturday into Sunday, or out of the last day of the old year into New Year's Day, and *vice versa* by going in the contrary direction. Then the confusion of dates in commercial and other business would cause endless trouble; and if you received an invitation to dinner, and forgot which side of the meridian your host lived on, you might find yourself at his house a day too soon, or, worse still, a day too late. The climax would be reached by sending your office lad "over the line" into the "west end" to buy the third edition of to-morrow's evening paper.

Of course it may be that owing to the want of a general understanding on the subject, it would be impossible to find any true meridian forming the dividing line. It is well known that in sailing round the world in an easterly direction a day is apparently gained, whilst in sailing westerly a day is lost. Consequently, two persons starting round in opposite

directions would, on meeting in the Pacific, be each nominally half a day wrong, and these two half-days would together make a discrepancy *in date* of a whole day; so that if he who had sailed east had the date Monday the tenth, the other would have it Sunday the ninth. Hence, in some of the more remote or less important islands of the Pacific, the day of the week and month would most likely be fixed by the earliest European settlers, and the date may, therefore, vary in different islands, according to the circumstance of such first settlers arriving by the easterly or westerly route. Should this be the case, instead of a meridian it would probably be necessary to draw an irregular line as being in fact the dividing boundary between the two dates.

Although this question must have been practically settled long ago, it is only of late years that an acquaintance with the subject has become a matter of every-day importance. To people who did not travel it was until recently of very little consequence that the time in Germany was a little earlier, and in Ireland a little later than our own, though students of *Bradshaw* may have been occasionally puzzled to understand why the Irish mail-boats leaving Holyhead apparently crossed to Kingstown in much less time than the return boats. But deep-sea cables and the overland telegraph lines to India and other distant regions have altered all this. A person unacquainted with the variations of time in different longitudes, on receiving simultaneously telegrams from correspondents in San Francisco and Calcutta, would imagine that the one from the former place had been greatly delayed, whilst that from Calcutta had been transmitted with most praiseworthy and apparently impossible celerity, whereas the actual time taken might be much the same. Indeed the San Francisco telegram would perhaps be more rapidly sent, owing to the numerous repetitions that Indian telegrams have to undergo. Should "instantaneous" communications ever be established with New Zealand, the Fiji and Sandwich Isles, Japan, and places in similar longitudes, a practical acquaintance with the variations of date would become indispensable to persons having business relations with those parts of the world.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

The querist who wanted information on this subject will be puzzled by the replies of last week, as they are opposed to each other. One states Auck-

land to be east longitude, and the other makes the astounding assertion that it is 185 degrees west. As 180 degrees is the greatest longitude a place can have, it is evident that W. J. HERRING is in a muddle. Your other correspondent is correct in his explanation, but is five minutes in error in giving the time. The true longitude of Auckland, neglecting fractions of a degree, is 175 degrees east. Dividing this by 15, we get 11 hours 40 minutes as the difference between Greenwich and Auckland time. The time of all places in east longitude is before Greenwich time; therefore 10 a.m. Greenwich time is 9 40 p.m. in Auckland, on the same day.

MAGISTER.

BAGGIN.

(No. 3,775 and others.)

[3,784.] I am inclined to regard the explanation of this word given by Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY as the correct one. I have met with it under the following circumstances:—Some years ago, while staying at a farm house at Alderley, I was constantly in the fields, and have often been with the haymakers at work when, about ten or eleven in the morning, the baggin was brought to us by some one from the farm. I have heard the same word applied to the evening meal (tea), but under peculiar circumstances only. When, on account either of a coming change in the weather or from some other reason, it was not desirable to stop work by going to the house, the farmer at dinner-time would order that the baggin should be sent into the field to the men. This, of course, is quite consistent with the suggested origin of the word as derived from being "originally carried in a bag."

T. SWINDELLS.

London Road, Manchester.

* * *

Elijah Ridings, in his edition of Collier's *Thomas and Mary* (published by James Ainsworth, Piccadilly, Manchester), in a footnote on page 22, defines "Baggin-time, as a lunch in the afternoon, from carrying in a bag, bread and cheese, and ale, in a bottle to labourers in the fields." The word is very common in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, but I have never heard it used otherwise than as referring to an afternoon meal, and certainly never in the sense suggested by Dr. Murray, viz., of "Tucking in," "Bags," no doubt, is vulgarly used as a term for the belly, and though coarse, perhaps, is by no means inapt, but the origin of "baggin" is, undoubtedly, as given by Elijah Ridings.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

Having been brought up at Bolton, I beg to state that in the early part of my life—say up to 1835—"baggin" was the term I mostly heard applied to the afternoon meal, especially if taken in a cotton mill. When the ordinary time of finishing the day's work at mills was half-past seven in the evening the baggin was conveyed by messengers to the workers about four o'clock. I was employed in a cotton mill a number of years, but it was my lot not to witness a stoppage of the machinery while baggin was eaten and sipped. Sometimes persons had a supplementary meal between breakfast and dinner, and this was called a forenoon-baggin. N. L. Bolton.

HENSHAW, FOUNDER OF THE BLIND ASYLUM.
(Nos. 3,742, 3,749, and 3,762.)

[3,785.] As the husband of a lady directly descended from Mrs. Henshaw, but who ended a useful and devoted life on the second of June last, I am desirous to supply some omissions and correct some errors in Mr. JOHN OWEN'S statement (Query No. 3,749, January 31). Mrs. Sarah Henshaw was the daughter and only child of Mr. Philip Mayers, of Manchester, and married for her first husband Joseph, son of Mr. John Taylor, of Hamer Hill, Blackley, proprietor of estates at Crumpshall, Shaw, Crompton, Heap, Royton, Church Holme, Broughton, and Halcombe. I possess black profiles of both Mrs. Henshaw's parents, and two very beautiful oil paintings of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, in their marriage costume, attributed to Sir Joshua Reynolds. Mrs. Taylor was born about 1761 and died in 1836. Mr. Taylor died early, in consequence of a cold taken in kindly assisting to extinguish an extensive fire, in 1790, aged thirty-one. His will was proved at York. He left six children, Ann, Mary, Sarah, and Hannah, and two sons, John and James Mayers. Hannah died young. Ann married Mr. Joseph Armitage, J.P. and D.L., of High Royd and Milnsbridge, near Huddersfield, woollen manufacturer. She died in 1854 leaving a large family holding important positions in the neighbourhood. Mary married in 1807 Mr. James Lacy, of Chichester, merchant and liveryman, of London. Their only son, the Reverend James Lacy, B.A., of St. John's College, Oxford, was incumbent of Golcar, near Huddersfield, but died in the second year of his ministry 1836. Also three daughters, Mary, my beloved wife, born 1808: Sarah, who died unmarried at Ramsgate in 1871; and Louisa living unmarried

at Huddersfield. Mr. Lacy died at Islington in 1832. Mrs. Lacy, at my house, when incumbent of Slaithwaite in 1841.

Sarah, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, married Mr. Edward Loyd, banker, of Cheetham Hill, Manchester, younger brother, and partner of Mr. Samuel Loyd, who married Miss Jones, and with her took the bank, which hence bore the style of Jones, Loyd, and Co. His son, Samuel Jones Loyd, became Lord Overstone, and his only daughter is the wife of Colonel Loyd Lindsay. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Loyd died in the same month of January, 1863, at Combe, in Kent.

John Taylor was captain commandant of the Oldham Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry, who presented him with an elegant sword and silver cup. He died unmarried in 1845.

James Mayers Taylor married Miss Clegg, of Oldham, resided at Westwood, but died at Minshall Vernon, Cheshire, in 1864.

I have a copy of the printed report of the trial, Henshaw and Hatfield against Atkinson and Atkinson (including Mr. Henshaw's will, and the judgment of the court at York. I have also a small wooden box in which Mr. Henshaw was, in early life, accustomed to lay aside a portion of his earnings for charity, and which was used by Mrs. Hulbert to the day of her death to contain charity funds; also a model in cardboard made by her of the four gabled house, Stonewall, where Mrs. Henshaw resided, and where Mrs. Hulbert at Miss Lacy's spent much of her early years.

Most of these particulars will be found in my work *The Annals of the Parish of Almondbury*, especially the history of the Armitage family. The *Foundations of Manchester* also contains correct information respecting Mr. Henshaw.

C. A. HULBERT, M.A.,
Vicar of Almondbury, Yorkshire, and Honorary
Canon of Ripon.
Almondbury Vicarage, near Huddersfield.

QUERIES.

[3,786.] VIVIAN, PAINTER.—Can any reader give me information respecting a painter of considerable merit named Vivian (J. Vivian), who laboured some fifty years ago? He produced a large number of scenes in and about Venice, an interesting specimen of which has been on view here at the Leek Art Exhibition, lent by Mr. Grindley, of Liverpool.

E. E. MINTON.

Leek.

Saturday, February 28, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

VIVIAN, PAINTER.

(Query No. 3,786, February 21.)

[3,787.] There is an artist named J. Vivian still living in Aldine-street, Shepherd's Bush Green, London, who paints with great truth views of Venice.

MARSHALL PRESTON.

THE CLOWES FAMILY.

(Query No. 3,780, February 14.)

[3,788.] The house of Miss Clowes at Hunts Bank was known by the name of The Mansion. In that name it was advertised and sold by auction in lots in the summer of 1843, and was taken down for the erection of the first railway station, Victoria Station, Hunts Bank. The writer bought part of the materials.

J. E. SMITH.

TIME IN NEW ZEALAND.

(Nos. 3,768, 3,776, and 3,783.)

[3,789.] When I wrote my reply to F. S. A. as to Time in New Zealand I was under the impression that the new system of rotation would alter the old arrangements as to time, and that the noon time would follow continuously round the world. I find it is not so, and that at noon on February 28 at Greenwich it is nearly midnight of the same day at Auckland.

W. J. HERRING.

HI LONG VI TONG.

(Note No. 3,769, February 14.)

[3,790.] The man to whom T. N. refers was, I believe, Henry Doitman, of Chapel-street, Altrincham, a native of Holland. His history, as delivered by him to my mother fifty-five years ago in my presence, was that before he was eighteen years of age he never ate but from a silver plate and with a silver spoon, until Napoleon conquered Holland, when his family lost their all. He was not brought up to any trade or profession, and was pressed, along with many other young men of his class, into the service of Napoleon as horse soldiers. He deserted with about twenty others by crossing a river on horseback to British territory. He died at Altrincham about forty years ago, and was buried in Bowdon Churchyard. He was married and had a family, made a good living, sent his sons to the best day schools and paid for their tuition, and was always looked upon as a respectable man, known in

that district as the Dutchman. I have often heard him say that he frequently walked forty miles a day, and that between carving and gilding and selling his goods, he was fully employed. He could speak English fluently, was an excellent walker, and conducted himself as a gentleman during his long residence at Altrincham.

J. E. SMITH.

MANOR COURTS: TABLER: SPRINKLINGS.

(Note No. 3,770, February 14.)

[3,791.] The word "Tabler" was in daily use in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and was understood to mean boarder or lodger, one who keeps boarders, one who "tables" people. "Table," to board; to live at the table of another. See *Autobiography of Joseph Lister*, p. 48. In the *Man in the Moone*, 1609, we find:—

All supper while, if they table together, he peereth
and prieth into the platters to picke out dainty
morsels to content her maw.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Rusholme.

* * *

Tabling was, fifty years ago, and is now in most parts of Cheshire, a well-known word. The difference between a tabler and a lodger is that the tabler was supplied with food. It is common now to say, "So-and-so keeps a good table," or the reverse.

"Sprinklings," or rather springlings, properly called springes, springles, or thatch pricks, are self-grown shoots, not branches, of hazel, ask, or willow, used in building straw thatch on the roofs of houses or for thatching hay or corn stacks. Branches are not so used, because they would not twist or bend without breaking. In early English timber-framed buildings springes were used in the interior of the panels, coated inside and out with raddle and dant, a mixture of plastic clay and chopped straw, or reeds generally, about four inches thick. Many such panels can be seen in old buildings almost in every part of England, they having faced the battle of time hundreds of years.

J. E. SMITH.

THE ABBOTS OF VALE ROYAL ABBEY.

(Query No. 3,778, February 14.)

[3,792.] The best book on the subject of Vale Royal Abbey is Ormrod's *History of Cheshire*. The second volume contains a most interesting account of the laying of the foundation stone by King Edward the First, in 1277 (in consequence of a vow he made), the building of the Abbey, the quarrels of the Abbots with their tenants and others, the suppression of the

monastery, and the granting of the estates to courtiers and successful merchants. Some years ago I compiled an account of the neighbourhood, and introduced several subjects of interest; also some particulars of the Abbey at Darnhall (not far from Vale Royal) where the monks had been located waiting the completion of the building, which was christened the Vale Royal Abbey. If your correspondent will look over the doors of the Abbey Arms, Oakmere, in the forest, as he passes, he will see the arms of the Abbots. The names of the Abbots are as follows:—1, John Champneys; 2, Walter de Hereford; 3, John de Hoo; 4, Richard de Evesham; 5, Peter; 6, Robert; 7, Thomas; 8, Stephen; 9, Henry de Weryngton; 10, William; 11, Thomas de Kirkham (Bishop of Sodor and Man); 12, William Stratford; 13, John Buckley (this abbot commanded in person the tenantry of Vale Royal, to the number of 300, at the battle of Flodden Field); 14, John Harwood, the last abbot. The Darnhall estates of the Abbey were granted by King Henry the Eighth to Sir Rowland Hill, of London, Knight, but passed into other hands. The other Cheshire estates went to Thomas Holcroft, Esquire, but in the reign of King James the First the ancestor of the present Lord Delamere came into possession of them. The present Abbey has a few show places about it and is well worth a visit, but there is little of the ancient building to be seen.

C. DAGGATT.

* * *

The following works will be found to contain more or less information upon the above subject:—Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, vol. 2., Earwaker's *East Cheshire*, Croston's *Nooks and Corners of Lancashire and Cheshire*, and *Historic Sites of Lancashire and Cheshire*, and Smith and Webb's *Vale Royal*, 1656. See also under the head "Cheshire" in any reference catalogue.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Rusholme.

BAGGIN.

(No. 3,784 and others.)

[3,793.] Will you find room for another word on "baggin" from one who, forty years ago, frequently carried it to his father's haymakers? That in the morning, about eleven o'clock, was called "forenoon's-baggin," and usually consisted of bread, oatcake, cheese, butter, and a "keg" of ale; the latter was served to the men in horn cups, or, as they called them, "drink-hurns." That in the afternoon,

about five o'clock, was somewhat similar; some radishes and young onions being thrown in as a variety. This was called their "afternoon's-baggin." Both these meals were interjected between the ordinary three meals of breakfast, dinner, and supper; and it is perhaps allowable to glance at that fact for an explanation of the name baggin. At the time indicated, and more especially at a period anterior to it, the ordinary working man was thankful for his "three meals a day." But, if he left his "looms," for a day in the hayfield, from "early morn to dewy eve," it was part of his *bargain* that exhausted nature should have additional support afforded to it by two supplementary "feeds" and its resultant periods of rest. Such interchange of occupation from the sedentary to the active, or outdoor work, was notoriously common; and I have a distinct remembrance of hearing, when the bargains of "mowers" and "rakers" were being arranged, that the baggins were pointed out to them as something in the way of extras. Even the neighbouring farmers and their sons, who would often come to help at hay-time, joined in the baggins, although they professed to provide themselves with the ordinary meals. So with the Irish harvestman; and in both cases probably to save time and other inconvenience. It was frequently suggested that the Irishman lived on his baggins, and took home his wages intact. From "baggin time" to "baggin time" is not a very long jump, and its adoption afterwards is not unnatural. The proposition that it had, in its origin, any reference to tea-time, as the latter is now understood, may be dismissed at once. The people who invented the word baggin had only a theoretical knowledge of tea; and their third, and last, meal was postponed until nearer bedtime.

The enlarged dimensions of your welcome paper, on which I desire to congratulate you, may permit me to indulge in a reminiscence somewhat apropos to the above subject. A neighbouring farmer, of quaint speech and "excellent fancy"—who will probably be remembered by some of your readers as old "George-o'-thaniel's"—discussing agricultural labourers in general and haymakers in particular recommended to my father, in my presence, and very much to my serious appreciation at that time, that the best thing to give them for breakfast was "lumpy porritch" (porridge) and buttermilk; because the milk "swelled them up," and made them feel full; and, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, the "lumps"

burst and swelled again! and it was "as good as a forenoon's baggin for them." Is it the School Board, the invention of a tea-time, or the decadence of ancient ingenuity, that has brought about the fallen fortunes of our modern farmer? F. S. A.
Crumpsall.

INSCRIPTION AT REATHER-STREET METHODIST
CHAPEL.

(Nos. 3,754 and 3,773.)

[3,794.] Referring to the cryptograph on the wall of the Reather-street Chapel, it may be interesting to your readers to know that it originated through an incident which occurred many years ago, when the Priory at Moston was in existence.

It is recorded that the Cistercian Monks who occupied the Priory were much given to football as a means of recreation, and that in a game which they played against the members of the then young sect of Methodists, who had built a church in the neighbourhood, they suffered so severely from the kicks administered by their unskilful but more vigorous and athletic opponents that they were compelled to make a raid upon all the druggists in the district for the purpose of supplying themselves with a sufficient quantity of arnica with which to dress their bruises. This caused so much jubilation in the ranks of the Methodists that one festive member of that church, whose name was Samuel Jenkinson, but who was commonly called by his brethren Jack Sheppard, on account of the happy knack he had of breaking into the houses of the Established Church and winning over its sheep to his own fold, carved the cryptograph in question upon his own front door step to serve as a monument of the defeat of the monks. When read from top to bottom, beginning at the left-hand side, the letters form the words, "Arnica Moston Priory," and show the date when the Priory was founded. The letters J.K.A.Y. (the first two of which were omitted by your last week's correspondent, possibly because they are almost obliterated), were afterwards added by Mr. Kay, who, upon the death of Mr. Jenkinson, had the stone removed to the chapel in Reather-street. T. CLAPPERTON.

Alma Cottage, Moston Lane.

* * *

Allow me to explain that I was specially requested to restore the Reather-street Chapel stone, and was offered payment for the work when done. This, however, I refused, although Mr. Clapperton had a

blank cheque, signed by the trustees, ready to fill in when I named the amount. I replaced the stone on Monday week. I think the stone was to commemorate a victory over the monks in some game, but I don't attach much importance to it. JAMES KAY.
Regent Terrace, Queen's Road.

THE ARMS OF MANCHESTER.

(Note No. 3,781, February 14.)

[3,795.] The Greslets or Grelles, lords of Manchester from the Conqueror's time to the fourteenth century, bore for their arms gules three bendlets enhanced or—in modern language a red shield with three narrow golden diagonal bars. A bend in heraldry is a diagonal bar starting from the top dexter side of the shield to the bottom sinister side; a bendlet is the diminutive of the bend; a bendlet enhanced is somewhat broader but not so broad as the bend. But the ancient shield of the Greslets' has its varieties, being sometimes represented as three bends and at other times a bend and two bendlets.

The last of the Greslets', Joanna, married John La Warre, whose arms were gules (red), a lion rampant argent (standing on its hind legs white), crucilly botonée fitchée (between little daggers with cross handles); the supporters or beasts supporting the shield were helmeted lions. A hundred years later the Lordship of Manchester passed into the West family, who were allied to the Cantilupes, and whose supporters were antelopes. We have now accounted for the lower part of the shield and its supporters, the lion and antelope.

When the town became a municipal corporation the Heralds took its armorial bearings in hand. They added, by way of enhancement or honour, a "chief," that is the upper third of the whole shield, or "field" upon which they placed the "charge" of a ship in full sail, either in allusion to Manchester goods being borne across the sea, or to the place from which came the materials of the sails. The same policy no doubt dictated the crest, a world covered with working bees, and the motto, "By Advice and Labour." I cannot say I admire these latter additions, either heraldically or as matters of taste. The lion is "murally" crowned, that is with a crown embattled—a *city* charge—and each supporter has a red rose for Lancaster upon its shoulder. The ancient crest of the Greslets was a hand holding a fish "proper" (of its own colour). As mottoes did not come into use till a late period ["Ich dien" and "Honi soit, &c.,"

being among the earliest] the Greslets had none. The wreath is a parti-coloured band of six stripes, three of each of the principal colours in the shield, alternately, and is what most crests stand upon; it was originally a roll or turban worn round the helmet. Should the Ship Canal ever come to pass the heralds will have become better prophets than one would have taken them for.

The Greslet shield will be found in several places about the Cathedral—the La Warre arms on the bench end adjoining the Canon Residentiary's stall, and the lion and antelope on the Miserere's or sub-cellæ of two of the seats on the south side of the choir near the Bishop's throne.

ERNEST F. LETTS.

Manchester Cathedral.

QUERIES.

[3,796.] HULSE, ARTIST.—I have a water-colour drawing, a work of merit (though only a copy, I think), signed "P. H. Hulse, 1857." Can any one give me any account of this gentleman, and say if he is still living?

HAL.

[3,797.] AUTHORSHIP OF SONG: THE FARMER'S BOY.—Who was the author of the song the Farmer's Boy, the chorus of which runs as follows:—

To reap and to mow,
To plough and to sow,
And to be a farmer's boy.

TOM REEVES.

[3,798.] THE HORSE AND THE CAMEL.—George Eliot says (*Adam Bede*, p. 40): "A peasant can no more help believing a traditional superstition than a horse can help trembling when he sees a camel." Is this latter assertion an acknowledged fact? I do not remember to have met with it elsewhere, though our authoress is not usually given to err even in small things.

HAL.

[3,799.] AUTHORSHIP OF VERSES.—I shall be glad to have the assistance of your Notes and Queries column in arriving at the authorship of two poetical pieces. The first is a little pathetic ballad depicting the sorrows of an outcast daughter, the last verse of which runs as follows:—

O, cruel was my father that shut his door on me,
And cruel was my mother that such a sight could see;
And cruel is this wintry wind that chills my heart
with cold,
But, crueller than all, the lad that left his love for gold.

The other was, about forty years ago, a school recitation. The title, I believe, was "The Pious Farmer." One verse runs—

Should it rain all the week,
And the Sunday prove fine,
Though others make hay
Yet I'll not work at mine.

The moral being, of course, that his success in life was attributable to a pious observance of the Sabbath Day. The ballad, I have a sort of notion, was taken from one of those little penny warblers which, then so common, are now, alas, very rare.

J. D. ANDREW.

Lymm.

THE FRENCH V. THE ENGLISH WORKPEOPLE.—Mr. Edward Owen Greening, formerly of Manchester, in the course of an article in the *Co-operative News* descriptive of a visit to France, draws a comparison between the French and English agricultural and other labourers. "It is usual," he says, "for one class of political economists amongst us to speak of the masses of the French people as being much better off than the masses of the English people. I must confess I have never been able to find the evidence for it. I have tried to do so, both by personal inspection and by careful reading of the best French authorities. Both at Guise and in all the towns we are now passing through on the railway we can see the people are worse housed than ordinary English agricultural labourers. A great many of the dwellings are mere one storey cabins, little better than Irish huts. Others are built higher, but the rooms are evidently poor and ill-furnished. Sanitary arrangements can scarcely be said to exist in a good many of them. I do not know how far over-crowding in big towns compares with the same evil in England, but from some cause or other it is notorious that the death-rate in France is at least two per thousand higher than in England. That means that in a population of 36 millions no less than 72,000 more people are killed off every year by some means or other. This is more than equal to the destruction annually of a town such as Stockport or Rochdale or Ashton-under-Lyne. How are we to account for such a fact as this if the masses of the people are really as well off as our own? Then it is also notorious that although France is so favoured by nature that she can grow 7,000 different plants or vegetables useful to man, whilst we can only grow about 1,500, yet the produce of her fields is only about half as much per acre as we get out of our less fertile land in England. And we co-operative travellers can see for ourselves that French workmen work at least two hours per day longer than our English ones, and have neither Saturday half-holiday or a quiet free Sunday. In fact they make about fourteen or fifteen weeks overtime in a year, for which they receive no pay. The women almost everywhere appear to have to work like the men. There is scarcely any apparent restriction by custom on the kind of work women have to take part in. I must confess I am disillusioned myself, and quite cured of any belief I may ever have had, in the efficacy of either Malthusianism or sub-division of land as cures for the ills of poverty."

Saturday March 7, 1885.

NOTES.

FOLK-LORE: COCK CROWING AT NIGHT.

[3,800.] When I kept fowls I have frequently been startled by the loud crowing of the cocks late at night during the spring, autumn, and winter months. We lived in a quaint country place, and were so enclosed at the back that disturbance from man or beast was out of the question, whilst lights from the house could not possibly reach the hen-pen. In the said country place (situate in the Isle of Man) I have often heard it said that upon hearing a rooster crow late at night, the person should at once go and feel the rooster's feet to ascertain their temperature; as, if hot, it is a sign of good fortune to the family; but if cold, it signifies the death of one of its members. The origin of this superstition is unknown to me, and I shall be glad if some correspondent will kindly enlighten us upon this subject.

MURIEL.

PORTRAIT OF WOLFENDEN, THE LANCASHIRE MATHEMATICIAN.

[3,801.] Mr. Morgan Brierley has presented to the Manchester Literary Club a photographic portrait of James Wolfenden, the Lancashire mathematician, as a companion to the water-colour head of John Butterworth, which he deposited with the club at the time he read a paper on the Lancashire Mathematicians, in December, 1877. An engraving from this sketch of Butterworth was given in the fourth volume of the Literary Club's *Papers*. James Wolfenden was born at Hollinwood in 1754, and died there in 1841, aged eighty-seven years. The inscription on his grave in Hollinwood Churchyard, placed there by a few members of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, states that Wolfenden, "born in a humble station in life, and compelled to toil as a weaver for his daily bread, self-instructed, he became a distinguished mathematician."

Mr. William Lees, of Hollinwood, in sending a copy of the photo of Wolfenden to Mr. Morgan Brierley, wrote as follows:—"The portrait from which the photograph has been taken has a little history which I think worth relating. Mr. Wolfenden had numerous friends in Liverpool who, both before and after he had begun to calculate the Tide Table for that port, desired

him to leave Hollinwood and reside among them. They wished him to go there in the capacity of private teacher of the mathematics, and they offered to guarantee him a considerable income. He declined, however, to accede to their request, preferring to remain in his native village in the very humble and unassuming position he had always occupied. His numerous admirers were desirous that a portrait of him should be taken, for which he sat to an artist at Chamber Hall, Hollinwood. Two portraits were taken, one of which his Liverpool friends had, and which on inquiry about it from the late Mr. Jesse Winward, of West Derby, I was told it was last known to be in the possession of a Mr. Colin Campbell there, who was a contributor to the mathematical periodicals of that day; the other was retained at Chamber Hall in the family of the late Mr. Livesey, who ordered that after his death it should be given to me. It is from this portrait in oil that the accompanying photograph has been taken."

The portrait represents a man of about seventy-five, dressed in clothes resembling an old-style Quaker's; the expression is firm, serene, and thoughtful. It would be interesting to know the name of the painter. The copy, it may be added, was taken by the Phototype Company, of Market-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"THE FARMER'S BOY."

(Query No. 3,797, February 28.)

[3,802.] This song was written by Robert Bloomfield, a popular rural poet, originally a shoemaker. He was also the author of "The Fakenham Ghost." Born 1766; died 1823. JOHN TAYLOR.
Bankfield, Dol-y-Garog.

THE LETTER H IN SHAKSPERE.

(Nos. 3,779 and 3,782.)

[3,803.] It is perhaps worth while pointing out that there is another passage in Shakspeare which illustrates the then current pronunciation of "ache" as if it were written "aitch." It occurs in *Antony and Cleopatra*, act iv., scene 7:—

ANTHONY: Thou bleed'st apace.

SCARUS: I had a wound here that was like a T,
But now 'tis made an H.

ION.

* * *

Respecting the old way of pronouncing the word "ache," I have a dim recollection of a church parson of the name of Headache coming into a well-known Lancashire town, who, on some account or other, got to be nicknamed "Yed-warche," whereupon he adroitly began to write his signature "Headeach," and I suppose is now known by that name. The disagreeable affection of the head, which probably occasioned the surname, would seem to have been not quite charmed away by the change of spelling; for only a short time ago I saw in a respectable provincial newspaper a letter, with the signature in the latest form of spelling, in which the writer called some person whose opinions he did not approve of "a deliberate liar!" The compliment was duly returned, upon which the Editor said the correspondence must cease!

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

THE HORSE AND THE CAMEL.

(Query No. 3,798.)

[3,804.] Though I cannot say whether the trembling of the horse when he sees a camel is "an acknowledged fact," it seems, at all events, to be a tolerably familiar and well-established tradition. I would refer your correspondent HAL to a fable of Lessing's, entitled "Jupiter and the Horse," the substance of which is as follows:—The Horse approaches the throne of Jupiter with the complaint that, though he is considered one of the most beautiful of creatures, he yet thinks that there are sundry things which might be improved in him. Jupiter, smiling, invites him to name them, whereupon the Horse replies: "Perhaps I should be fleetlier if my legs were longer and more slender; a long swan's neck would not disfigure me; a broader breast would increase my strength; and since thou hast appointed me, thy favourite, to carry men, it would perhaps be best for me to be at once born with a saddle." "Good," answers Jupiter, "have patience a moment." The fable then continues:—Jupiter, with stern countenance, spoke the word of creation, life flowed in the dust, organized matter united itself, and straightway there stood before the throne the hideous Camel. The Horse beheld, shuddered, and trembled with horrified aversion. Here are longer and slenderer legs," said Jupiter: "Here is a long swan's neck; here is a broader breast; here is the natural saddle! Wilt thou, Horse, that I thus transform thee?" The Horse still trembled. "Go," con-

tinued Jupiter; "this time be instructed without being punished. But that thou mayst, now and then, repentingly remember thy presumption, continue to exist, new creature." Jupiter cast a life-sustaining glance on the Camel—"and may the Horse never behold thee without shuddering." The foregoing is but a rough translation, but the fable will, I think, in itself, sufficiently show that George Eliot's remarkable accuracy in small things, to which HAL alludes, has not failed her here.

A. H.

AUTHORSHIP OF VERSES.

(Query No. 3,799, February 28.)

[3,805.] Mr. J. D. ANDREW'S first quotation is only a parody. The original is of the days of the French war in the early part of the century. The stanza corresponding to the parody ran thus:—

O cruel was the press-gang
That stole my love from me,
And cruel was the captain
That took him off to sea,
And cruel was the little boat
That rowed him from the strand,
And cruel was the big ship
That sailed him from the land.

The young lady whose grief is thus described was the daughter of a publican in Strand-street, Liverpool, the scene of many such exploits by the press-gang. The credit of authorship was given to Thompson, the ballad printer of Rainford Gardens. Thompson was a Radical Reformer of the day, and a leading orator in debating societies. He was famed for many years as, at least, the editor and publisher of "the last dying speeches and confessions" of the culprits who were hanged in Lancaster, together with "a copy of the verses which were written by them in the condemned cell on the night before their execution." Those were days! Every thief could write his own elegy. Rainford Gardens, where Thompson lived, was classic ground. They were not gardens then except in name, but they had been. Sir J. A. Picton, in the second volume of his *Memorials of Liverpool*, p. 134, says:—"Rainford's Garden takes its name from Peter Rainford, mayor in 1740. It was at one time a pleasant place of residence. Mr. William James, merchant, grandfather of Mr. William James of Barrock Lodge, formerly M.P. for Cumberland, afterwards resided here. His house was afterwards occupied by the firm of Aspinwall, Roscoe,

and Lace, solicitors." This was the large and well-built house at the corner of Mathew-street and the Gardens, pulled down years ago. It was subsequently occupied by a Mr. Cassidy, an extensive feather and quill merchant.

MEMORY.

FOX-FIRE.

(Nos. 3,719, 3,723, 3,733, 3,746, and 3,764.)

[3,806.] The question whether "fox-fire" be a nautical corruption of the word phosphorous, Mr. MADELEY, no doubt, believes he has decided in the affirmative by the evidence of a solitary witness. I have, however, the testimony of several persons who have made long voyages and have often seen the sparkling radiance of the sea in the night time, but who never heard it called fox-fire. If Mr. MADELEY persist in his assertion that fox-fire is a nautical corruption of phosphorous, the duty will then devolve upon him to show whether anyone, besides himself and Mr. LANGHAM, ever gave the name of phosphorous to the nocturnal luminosity of the ocean. If such a term was never applied to this phenomenon, no corruption of it could be possible.

Mr. BARLOW's notions on this subject are not in harmony with those of Mr. MADELEY. The light of false-fire (*ignis fatuus*) and fox-fire, he tells us, is from a common source, viz., decayed vegetable matter; and then, naturally enough, he looks about to find a common origin of the name given to the light; and this he discovers in A.N. to be "fallax-fer," which he says means the same thing. But, unfortunately for Mr. BARLOW's theory, this barbarous compound of Latin and French signifies neither false-fire nor fox-fire, but false iron. As to the origin of the *ignis fatuus*, naturalists are not so positive as Mr. BARLOW; but with regard to fox-fire—or, as I prefer to call it, folks'-fire—the case is different. Shining wood is certainly decayed vegetable matter, but that is not the reason it shines in the dark; if it were we might expect every piece of rotten wood we handled to emit light; but this not being the case we must look further for the cause of this phenomenon. Botanists tell us that there are several species of fungi which are luminous in the dark; and that it is the *Telephora Cerulea*, which, by protruding its fibres into the pores of decayed wood, is the cause of its luminosity.

S. HEWITT.

Percival-street, C.-on-M.

QUERIES.

[3,807.] "TEME" IN COURSING.—The *Saturday Review* of February 21, in an article on "Private Coursing," quotes Dame Juliana Berner's well-known points of perfection of a greyhound as "syded like a teme." What is a teme? I cannot find the word in any dictionary. Perhaps some of your readers can enlighten me. I was taught the quotation (alas, many a long year ago) as "sided like a bream."

AN OLD COURSER.

WHAT SHOULD FARMERS DO?—Sir James Caird in a letter to the *Times*, says that thirty-three years ago he advised farmers to pay more attention to meat and dairy produce, and less to corn, and he points to present circumstances, not only in England but also in the wheat-growing districts of America, as demonstrating the wisdom of that advice. The overflowing harvests of last year have brought down the price of corn to a point below the cost of production. In some parts of Dakota and other remote districts the farmers have had to part with their wheat at from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per bushel, and have been ruined in consequence. Into England, as the only country always compelled to import a large proportion of the breadstuffs she consumes, has been poured the enormous surplus production of the rest of the world at prices unprecedentedly low. Hence the difficulties which the fruitful season of last year was not sufficient to dissipate for the English farmer. Hence also the perplexities which now surround him.

MACAULAY AND CARLYLE.—In a volume of *Essays and Reminiscences*, just published, Mr. James Montgomery Stuart, its author, tells the following anecdote of Lord Macaulay: "Visiting Lord Macaulay just at the time when the first instalment of Carlyle's *Life of Frederick* was published, I found him engaged in the perusal of the opening chapters. His wrath—I can use no milder word—against Carlyle's style was boundless. He read aloud to me four or five of the most Carlylean sentences, and then throwing the book on the library table exclaimed, 'I hold that no Englishman has the right to treat his mother-tongue after so unfilial a fashion.' Before a week had elapsed I was again at Holly Lodge, and he at once recurred to Carlyle's history. 'Pray read it,' he said, 'as soon as you can find time. Of course I have not got, and never shall get, reconciled to his distortions and contortions of language; but there are notwithstanding passages of truly wonderful interest and power, and in the infinite variety of new historical facts, and in the delight and instruction they afford, if my first feeling has been that of annoyance at the strange way of telling the story, my second and permanent feeling is one of gratitude that—even in such a way—the story has been told.'"

Saturday March 14, 1885.

NOTES.

PYFLETS.

[3,808.] A few weeks ago I read in the *Leicester Chronicle* that some boys were charged with stealing muffins and "pyflets." The word was repeated, or I should have taken it for a clerical error, and that "pikelets" were meant. But, taken in conjunction with muffins, I am led to suppose that the word pyflet is a local name for the ordinary crumpet or crumpet. In London, as the readers of *Pickwick* will be aware, the little spongy cake is called a crumpet. Mr. Pickwick was elected president of the Hot Muffin and Crumpet Punctual Delivery Company. The London crumpet is not so large in diameter as a small tea-saucer. In Lancashire there are muffins, crumpets, and pikelets. The crumpet is so called because the batter is poured into a circular metal ring or "cramp" for baking, and the size is that of an ordinary tea-saucer. The pikelet is about the size of a large breakfast-saucer, and somewhat thinner than the crumpet, baked, I believe, without the cramp. In Cheshire there used to be a still thinner breakfast dainty, eaten well-buttered, hot from the bakestone, and this, the size of a supper-plate, was called a wheat-cake. In the United States, these or something like them are called "pikes," or turnpikes. The name has evidently been borrowed from England, for what is "pikelet" but a little "pike," and the cake is just such a one as might be readily prepared and baked in haste for a traveller about to start on a journey by the turnpike road (there were no railroads), or baked by a gipsy on a griddle or bakestone over a roadside fire, where loaves of bread were not obtainable. Crumpet is, I take it, the proper rendering of the muffin's honourable spouse; but what is the "pyflet?" Is it the little spongey-surfaced cake known elsewhere as the crumpet or crumpet, or, is it the pikelet? Perhaps some of your readers can say.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

[Dr. Sebastian Evans, in his *Glossary of Leicestershire Words*, published by the English Dialect Society, gives:—Pikelet: a common tea-table delicacy occupying a position almost exactly intermediate between the popular pan-cake and the ordinary crumpet of commerce. On the Warwickshire side of the county the word is sometimes written and pronounced "pyflet." And in Mr. Edward Peacock's *Glossary of*

Words in use in the wapentakes of Manley and Corringham, Lincolnshire, issued by the same society, we have:—Pyflets or Pyclets; a leathery kind of cakes, called crumpets in London.—ED.]

THE EARLS OF DURHAM AND THE LAMBTON
LEGEND.

[3,809.] The painful lawsuit which ended on Tuesday, by the judge declaring that the wife of the Earl of Durham was sane at the time of her marriage, has attracted considerable attention, and probably induced not a few persons besides myself to refer to the history of the Lords of Lambton. A legend, connected with a figure that is to be seen at Lambton Castle representing a man, clothed in razor-covered armour, in the act of thrusting a sword into a serpent's throat, may not be uninteresting to some of the readers of your Notes and Queries.

The Lambtons in the olden days were equally notorious for wickedness and for bravery. The legend relates to one of them, who, fishing on a Sunday morning, was angry at not catching anything, vented his rage in curses upon the people who passed him on their way to church. No sooner had he thus relieved his feelings than he noticed a bite, and in a few minutes after careful handling succeeded in landing, not a good-sized fish, but, to his dismay, a hideous serpent with nine holes on each side of his mouth. Casting the serpent into a well near to where he was fishing, he remarked to a bystander that he thought it was the devil. As frequent in those days, the irate fisherman, after drinking the local cup of wickedness to the dregs, repented of his evil ways, and to set against them some good works, he wandered into foreign lands to employ his sword against the infidel. During his absence the serpent grew to enormous dimensions, swallowed herds of cattle, poisoned the air, destroyed vegetation by its breath, and became a terror to the neighbourhood. Brave men sought to slay it, but when they cut it in pieces the pieces re-united, so that at the end the serpent remained intact whilst its adversaries were either slain or mangled terribly. In time the heir of Lambton, having had his fill of holy slaughter, returned home, and quickly resolved to rid the neighbourhood of the monster that reminded him of his old wickedness. To save himself from a discomfiture similar to that which had befallen every valiant foe of the serpent, he sought advice from a witch. This controller of the powers of darkness, after upbraiding the knight with being

the cause of the evil and mischief wrought by the serpent, exacted from him a vow to kill the living thing that first met him after the serpent was dead. She then directed him to put on a suit of armour protected by razors and then to attack the serpent with his sword. In the event of his failing to comply with the conditions a curse was to affect him and his descendants for nine generations, so that not one of them should die in his bed. Before departing on his dangerous mission the knight promised to give, after destroying the serpent, three blasts upon his horn as a signal to his father to release a favourite greyhound, that it might on rushing to its master be sacrificed in fulfilment of his vow to destroy the first living thing he met. The doughty hero having thus made, as he thought, due provision to fulfil all his obligations to the witch, sought the monster at the hill round which it usually coiled itself. Battle was at once given. The knight slashed at the monster, the monster wrapped itself round its armed assailant, but every time that its grip tightened the razors cut it into pieces. The pieces, as they touched the earth, re-united, and the monster uninjured darted afresh at its enemy. Again and again did this happen, till the brave Lambton began to dread that his work was hopeless. At length the knight ran into the river; the serpent followed, and seized him there with renewed vigour, but when it contracted its muscles the razors again cut it into pieces, but now the stream carried away the pieces without uniting, and the terrible scourge of Lambton was no more. Then rang through the air the three loud blasts from the horn of the joyous victor, who was however soon terrified by seeing his father running to embrace him, whilst no hound was visible. The old man had in the excitement of the moment, forgotten to release the dog before starting to bless his son. The son, full of anguish, gave another blast of his horn, the hound was this time set free, and reaching its master fell at a stroke of Lambton's sword. But the sacrifice was too late. The vow to slay the first living thing which met him after vanquishing the serpent had not been kept, so the curse on the Lords of Lambton lived until nine generations had died away from their beds.

This legend is said not to have been without effect upon the minds of successive inheritors of Lambton, upon their servants and tenants. Perhaps some of your readers can tell what hold this superstition has

still upon the people of Durham in the neighbourhood of Lambton, and explain in what actual circumstances the legend had its origin. X.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"TENN" IN COURSING.

(Query No. 3,837, March 7.)

[3,810.] It is evident that the *Saturday Review* misquoted Dame Juliana's points of perfection in a greyhound. The word should be "breme." Among the old coursers of my days the following doggrel rhymes were always quoted as marking the true points of a greyhound:—

A head like a snake,
A neck like a drake,
Back like a beam,
Sides like a *bream*,
Tail like a rat,
Feet like a cat

H. K. N.

THE HORSE AND THE CAMEL.

(Nos. 3,798 and 3,804.)

[3,811.] The following circumstance is perhaps worth telling in connection with this inquiry. Some years since, having business with the Messrs. Jennisons, Belle Vue, I drove to the Gardens. Entering at the Longsight lodge, I proceeded through the Gardens to the Hyde Road entrance. Just as I reached the stables, a camel passed in front of my horse, which immediately reared up and sprang round, nearly pitching me out. Had it not been that two ostlers rushed to his head he would have bolted. The most remarkable thing was, when we had got him pacified, the terror had been so great that the sweat poured from his body and dropt on the floor. I named the matter to many friends, but never could get any explanation.

P. F. MASON.

"THE FARMER'S BOY."

(Nos. 3,797 and 3,802.)

[3,812.] Will your correspondent, Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, inform us in what part and in what edition of Bloomfield's poems the song referred to on February 28th occurs? In the edition that I possess it does not appear at all. The most curious part about is, that in a copy of *Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry*, published by J. Parker and Son, it is there stated

that the author of the song in question is not known. It says, "There is no question that the Farmer's Boy it is a very ancient song; it is highly popular amongst the north-country lads and lasses. The date of the composition may probably be referred to the commencement of the last century, when there prevailed amongst the ballad-mongers a great rage for farmer's sons, plough boys, milk-maids, and farmer's boys." If the song was written by Bloomfield, it is passing strange that it should not be known more widely, and especially with good publishers.

JOHN WARD.

Moston.

* * *

Your correspondent in last issue has evidently been misled by the similarity of title in ascribing to Robert Bloomfield the authorship of the song inquired about by TOM RERVES. Bloomfield's *Farmer's Boy* is a well-known didactic poem of considerable length, treating upon farm life and labour, similar in style to Thomson's *Seasons*. The song of "The Farmer's Boy" is a ballad of five eight-line verses, and was known and sung probably a century before Bloomfield was born. Like many other old songs, however, the author seems unknown. In Beeton's *Book of Poetry* it is quoted as anonymous and as written before 1689. It is also quoted in Dixon's *Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry of England*, p. 148, and there named as a very ancient song, and highly popular among north-country lads and lasses; author unknown.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

AUTHORSHIP OF BALLAD.

(Nos. 3,799 and 3,805.)

[3,813.] Forty or fifty years ago it was the practice for street ballad-mongers to display their Catnach ballads behind lines of string against blank walls and hoarding. The one J. D. ANDREW inquires about was one of these, and usually had as an illustration at the top a rude wood-cut of a ship, or of a sailor with a bag of money in his hand, apropos of nothing except that the opening stanzas began:—

Oh! cruel were the parents that sent my love to sea,
And cruel was the ship that bore my love from me.

And another began, "Oh, cruel was the captain." It was a very old ballad then. Henry Beverly, the low comedian, in the character of a female street-singer, with Mr. Sloane as a strolling fiddler by his side, was wont to sing it, and the tune is running in my head

as I write. It was a common street ballad when I was very young, and Beverly sang it with the regular drawl, laying full emphasis on the "payrents." The gallery was in a roar, coppers were flung to them both on the stage, and on more than one occasion Mr. Beverly came down to the footlights and requested that no more should be thrown on account of the danger. It was quite as amusing and clever as Robson's "Villikins and his Dinah," and indeed may have suggested the latter. I should think the authorship of the ballad lost in the mists of obscurity.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

QUERIES.

[3,814.] GRAVES IN PRIVATE GROUNDS.—I have heard of a gentleman living, I think, in Longsight, who wished to be buried in his garden, and his wish was gratified. Can any reader give particulars?

G. H. O.

[3,815.] HAUNTED HALLS IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.—Some time ago Mr. Ingram published, through W. H. Allen and Co., London, his *Directory to the Haunted Homes of England*. A leading London magazine gave a review of the work, and supplemented the list with the following:—"A gentleman was very lately residing in a country house in Essex, when his sleep was disturbed by a slight noise in one corner of the panelled chamber. Lighting a candle, he waited on events. The panel was pushed aside, and a headless figure, dressed in a silvery shimmering substance and wearing diamonds, emerged and made towards the bed. At this moment a low, inarticulate, and gibbering sound of a voice proceeded from behind the bed, which was set against the wall. No sooner had this mournful utterance died away than the headless figure stopped and disappeared. The panels were afterwards taken down, and a headless skeleton in wasted white satin and the family diamonds was found in one corner of the chamber. The head was discovered in the panelling behind the bed. Now, why did the head address the body, and how did they come to be severed?" Can any correspondent give the name of the Essex county house mentioned above? It would be highly interesting to know whether there still exist any hall or house in Lancashire and Cheshire which is yet considered to be haunted.

SCIO.

Saturday, March 21, 1885.

NOTES.

THE FIRST VOLUNTEER OFFICERS IN MANCHESTER IN 1859.

[3,816.] The recent death of Lord Wilton has been speedily followed by that of Mr. Frank Ashton. As Lord Wilton was the first colonel, and Mr. Ashton the first major of the first regiment of Manchester Volunteers, the time seems opportune for putting on permanent record the names of the officers of the regiment at the date of its embodiment in 1859.

DAVID KELLY.

Stretford.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL COMMANDANT:

The Viscount Grey de Wilton.

MAJOR:

Frank Ashton.

CAPTAINS:

Company.

- 1 Edwd. Stanley Heywood
- 2 Joseph Peel
- 3 Marcus Brown-Westhead
- 4 John Pearce
- 5 Wm. Romaine Callender
- 6 Horatio Simon Samuel

Company.

- 7 Francis Philip Rickards
- 8 Samuel Henry Hinde
- 9 William Spencer Sawyer
- 10 James Knowles
- 11 David Bleackley
- 12 John Dugdale

LIEUTENANTS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Fenton Mangnall | 8 Herbert Philips |
| 2 Frederick Charles Ede | 9 Robert Bellhouse |
| 3 Walter B. Westhead | 10 George H. Goldsmith |
| 4 Francis Henry Glover | 11 Richard Pape Ford |
| 5 Edward O. Bleackley | 12 Peter H. Moore |
| 6 Robert Bridgford | — John J. Mawson (super- |
| 7 John Bagshaw | numerary) |

ENSIGNS:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 John Bradshaw | 7 John Hill |
| 2 Robert P. Hickson | 8 Robert May |
| 3 Isaac Gleave | 9 John S. Mayson |
| 4 Andrew Stirling | 10 John H. Ashton |
| 5 Peter Mawdsley | 11 Albert L. Dickins |
| 6 Thomas Walker Nelson | 12 Joseph Jervis |

Paymaster: John J. Mawson, lieutenant.

Adjutant: J. A. Lathbury, captain.

Surgeon: Ant. B. Brabazon, M.D.

Assistant-surgeon: Robert Manners Mann.

AN OLD MANCHESTER DEED.

[3,817.] I have before me a small parchment deed, engrossed in court-hand, and dated 26th September, 12th Elizabeth (1570), from the contents of which, written in Latin, I extract the following interesting particulars. The deed (poll) is a grant

from John Byron, of Colwick, in the county of Nottingham, Esquire, who for £140 conveys in fee simple to Edward Sidall, of *the Slade* [near Manchester], in Lancashire, gentleman, certain four closes called *Grinlowe Marshe*, situate in Gorton, in the parish of Manchester, adjoining which closes was a close known as *Biron earthe*, other neighbouring landmarks mentioned being (1) property belonging to the College of Manchester, (2) the highway leading from Manchester to Stopford (Stockport), (3) three closes, called respectively the *Two acres close*, the *Collyn ffield*, and the *Three acres close*, and (4) property of Ralph Byram. The land conveyed was estimated to contain together about seventeen acres, and was then lately in the occupation of Ralph Bordman (then deceased), but, at the time of the deed, was in the holding of one Thomas Baylye and his assigns. The grantee is expressed to take and hold the purchased property of the chief lord of the fee at the accustomed services. The grantor appoints one James Traves as his attorney to render actual possession of the land. The witnesses to the due execution of the deed are Robert Fletcher, James —, and — Harbottell; while the attestors to the "livery of seizin"—which took place on the following day—are Thomas Birche (gent.), John Parsivall, Thomas Parsivall, Richard Bexwicke, Nicholas Parsivall, and John Platt (gent.)—apparently all Manchester parishioners—beneath whose names is written the name of Ralph Kenyon. I will in my next note give some particulars (gleaned from later deeds) concerning members of the Percivall or Parsivall family.

The above John Byron, who (in 1579) was afterwards knighted, was son of that Sir John Byron (Steward of Manchester and Rochdale) on whose acquiring, in 1540, the famous Priory of Newstead, Clayton, near Manchester, lost the honour of being the chief family seat of the Byrons; and was father of Sir Nicholas Byron, the distinguished general during the Civil Wars; and grandfather of Sir John Byron (afterwards first Lord Byron), so well known as lieutenant of the Tower, and as a field-marshal of the Royalist forces, temp Charles I.

I find that, in a later deed (dated in 1636) in my possession, a Thomas Syddall is described as "of Milkwall-Slade, alias Slade, in the county of Lancaster, gent., sonne and heire apparent of George Syddall, gent." I may add that early references to Slade are very rare, though the name is now

familiar to us by its occurrence in "Slade Lane" and other place-names connected with Longsight and Levenshulme.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HULSE, ARTIST.

(Query No. 3,798, February 28.)

[3,818.] J. H. Hulse (not P. H.) lived in Pendleton in very poor circumstances. I believe he was an artist of considerable ability, but he was usually so fast for money that he could not wait until he could paint a good picture. This was his excuse for painting the great number of water-colour sketches, which he sold for a few shillings each. He died six or seven years ago.

ALFRED.

* * *

J. H. Hulse, artist, lived for some time at No. 12, Richmond Place, near Windsor Bridge, and was taken from there in a cab to the Salford Workhouse five years next July. He was only in the workhouse about three weeks when he died, and was buried in the Salford Cemetery. I have some drawings by him. I have known him since about 1852 or 1853. He was by trade a designer for china works. Mr. Hall, teacher of music, Clopton-street, has some beautiful specimens of his work. Mr. W. Smith, 9, West Brunswick-street, Windsor Bridge, has about 100 drawings, water-colours, and oil paintings from his brush.

R. ROBERTS.

150, Oldfield Road, Salford.

PYFLETS.

(Note No. 3,808, March 14.)

[3,819.] Mrs. BANKS inquires if the Leicestershire pyflet is the same as the spongy-surfaced cake known as the crampet or crumpet. Pyflet or pyclet—I think the former is the name they are generally known by in Leicestershire—is the same as the crampet in this county. The Note, called to my mind an old sign that I have seen many a time and oft in the Wharf-street, Leicester, though it must be twenty-five years since I last saw it. It runs thus:—

Elizabeth — she lives here,
She sells pyflets and not too dear
She makes them well and keeps them clean,
Just step inside, they are there to be seen.

EDWARD BRIGGS.

* * *

With regard to the words pyflets and pikelets, I

beg to observe that at Bolton, from fifty-five to sixty years ago, muffins were spoken of as "pike-lins," probably meant for "pike-lings."

N. L.

* * *

Mrs. LINNÆUS BANKS gives some interesting notes upon the origin of the terms "pyflets," "pikelets," "crumpets," "crampets," and "muffins;" but she makes an error in assigning to the immortal Pickwick the presidency of the Hot Muffin and Crumpet Punctual Delivery Company, whereas it was Sir Matthew Pupker who was unanimously and vociferously voted into the chair at that celebrated meeting for the "Institution of the United Metropolitan Improved Hot Muffin and Crumpet Baking and Punctual Delivery Company," mentioned in the second chapter of *Nicholas Nickleby*.

DOR.

Manchester.

GRAVES IN PRIVATE GROUNDS.

(Query No. 3,814, March 14.)

[3,820.] Such interments are by no means uncommon within a few miles of Manchester, both in Lancashire and Cheshire. The gentleman G. H. O. inquires about was probably Mr. Fletcher, of Burnage Road, Heaton Norris. He was buried at his own request in the front garden of his own house, which is now owned by Mr. Mollineaux, jun., of Manchester. This was ninety years ago. The grave was desecrated about thirty years ago on account of tradition saying that valuable treasure was placed in his coffin. Nothing valuable was found. The coffin and contents on exposure went to dust. The headstone, a very neat one, was removed some twenty years ago. The last time the writer saw it was in the coach-house on the premises. There are other interments in Heaton Mersey in a garden between the two public-houses.

Near Northwich, in the memory of the writer, a gentleman named Clough buried his wife in the garden. At Dunham Massey, in that part of the township known as Dunham Town, behind some cottages near the Town tree, is the burial-place of the Neilds, two graves. The gravestones now lie at the top of the passage leading from the highway to the back of the houses, but not in their proper places. An old inhabitant of Dunham assured the writer they were buried in the back garden, the stones were removed for the purpose of cultivation—a stupid trick. The inscription says Mr. Neild left £50 to the highways, meaning for their repair. It was duly paid, invested, and lost. At the bottom of one

of the stones is cut—evidently by an amateur letter-cutter—"The rest in peace."

Probably the last gentleman who made a burial-place on his own land in these parts—and it now contains himself, his wife, and daughter—was Mr. Norbury, of Hey Head, Northen Etchells. The grave is opposite the front door of the house. A handsome tomb was placed thereon. The next owner raised a mound of earth over it. The mound is now removed. The last time the writer passed he saw no traces of it from the road. These five cases near Manchester are given on the writer's personal knowledge.

J. E. SMITH.

Stretford.

* * *

Particulars of the Longsight interment, and of several other burials in private grounds near Manchester, will be found in the *Manchester Guardian* Local Notes and Queries for 1875—Nos. 899, 916, 930, 946, and 954.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[3,821.] JOHN REILLY.—Can any reader give some particulars about the author of a *History of Manchester*, John Reilly? One volume of the work was published and a second was in contemplation but never appeared. Did he publish any other works?

E. PARTINGTON.

[3,822.] LEGENDS OF LANCASHIRE.—I acquired, at a sale in London last year, a volume bearing the above title. It was published anonymously at Wigan in 1841, but I have since heard that the author was the Rev. Peter Landreth. Is this true; and, if so, who was he? I have also been informed that two volumes were published. I possess only one, and this appears to have been the only one published. My copy includes seven of the legends, and is dedicated to Lady Stanley. Was a second volume published?

E. PARTINGTON.

[3,823.] BIRTHPLACE OF JOHN BRADFORD, THE MARTYR.—The Rev. James Bardsley, formerly of St. Ann's, Manchester, in his *Visits to the Graves of Eminent Men*, speaking of John Bradford, says, "Whether he was born in Millgate, or in the township of Bradford, from which he took his name, is a point that never can be determined with certainty." Perhaps some of your readers can say something on this subject. I have never met with anything

showing that he was ever connected with this (Bradford) township. We certainly read of his preaching at Ashton-under-Lyne.

H. D.

[3,824.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Can any reader say who is the author of the following lines:—

Let me not deem that I was made in vain,
Or that my being was an accident.
Each drop uncounted in a storm of rain
Hath its own mission, and is duly sent
To its own leaf or blade, not idly spent
'Mid myriad dimples on the shipless main.
The very shadow of an insect's wing,
For which the violet cared not while it stayed,
Yet felt the lighter for its vanishing,
Proved that the sun was shining by its shade.

J. J.

THE IRISH CLIMATE.—Mr. Julian Hawthorne, in a new novel, *Miss Codogna*, just published, describes the Irish climate as one "which so bewilders, upsets, disconcerts, amazes, and enchants a man, that he presently becomes irretrievably reckless and demoralized. Seven years of it would make an Irishman out of a Krim-Tartar. It explains the history of Ireland and the disposition of her inhabitants. It is the climate of the most picturesque, most winning, and most fatal country in the world: he who is born in it will either languish vainly on its bosom, or, abandoning it, mourn for it ever after, yet know that to return to it would be to die!"

WOMEN IN RUSSIA.—The general position of women in Russia is, as might be expected, infinitely behind that of any other country in Europe. The daughter, like the son, is still absolutely subject to the father's power. The son escapes, as in Rome, only by entering the service of the Emperor; the daughter only by marriage. But the daughter on marriage merely transfers her allegiance; she passes under the power of her husband, for "one person cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy two such unlimited powers as that of the husband and that of the parents." She may not marry without her parents' consent. When she does marry, nothing but Siberia, five years' absence, or "the husband's adultery, established by two witnesses present when the crime was committed," can release her. She can never leave the husband even for a visit to a friend for a single day without a pass or passport signed by him, which has to be sent to the police to be viséed. "It depends entirely upon the husband to name the term for which the pass is good, and when it expires, the wife must return or get it renewed. Among the working classes, the wife or daughter often obtain their pass only after paying a stipulated sum to the husband or father." Restitution of conjugal rights—abominable enough in England when made by decree of the Court, as it would have been until last year—in Russia took the form simply of arrest by the police, and the recommitment of the unhappy woman to the dungeon of her domestic tyrant. Yet, curiously enough, this wretched slave was entitled to her own property, if she had any; and could, as an owner vote—not, indeed, in person, but through a male representative—for the Municipal Council.

Saturday, March 28, 1885.

NOTES.

THE ACKERS FAMILY.

[3,825.] It is worth noting that Mr. B. St. John Ackers, who has just been elected M.P. for West Gloucestershire, comes of a local family. Until a few years ago he derived a portion of his income from chief rents arising in Manchester, to which he succeeded on the death of his father, who in like manner obtained them from Mr. James Ackers, who resided at Lark Hill, Salford, and died in 1824. At the close of last century Mr James Ackers purchased, jointly with his brother Holland Ackers, large estates in Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Rusholme, and Salford, which they afterwards sold piecemeal for building purposes. The name of the family is perpetuated in Ackers-street, Oxford Road. The new member's maternal grandfather was Mr. Benjamin Williams, who resided at Walness Bank, and afterwards at Bowdon.

W. H.

OLD MANCHESTER DEEDS: PERCIVALL FAMILY.

[3,826.] In connection with my Note in last week's issue of the *City News*, recording the names of three members of (apparently) one family (John Parsivall, Thomas Parsivall, and Nicholas Parsivall) as co-witnesses to a "livery of seizin" at Gorton, in the parish of Manchester, *temp.* Elizabeth; I now give a few extracts from two deeds, each bearing a date in 12th Charles I. (1636)—the one 1st August, the other 16th September—and containing references to what would appear to be other members of that same family.

The earlier deed is a Lease, from "Joane Percivall, of Gorton, in the Countie of Lancaster, Widowe, late wief of Robert Percivall, late of Gorton aforesaid, deceased," in favour of "Thomas Syddall, gentleman, sonne and heire apparent of George Syddall, of the Slade in the Countie of Lancaster, gentleman," of "All that the messuage, cottages, dwelling-howse or howses, cowhowses, with all buildinges thereto adioyninge, together with the gardens and one p[ar]cell of land thereunto belonging . . . scituate . . . in Gorton aforesaid . . . nowe late or heretofore in the houldinge . . . of the said Joane and Edmund Percivall, her sonne, or of the one of them." From a later part of the deed it appears that the above described property had been "demised or assigned unto the said Joane Percivall by or from George Parcivall,

late of Gorton aforesaid, husbandman, By force and vertue of a certen assignement, beareinge date the Neenth day of Januarie, Anno dmi. 1625." The duration of the lease is expressed to be 99 years, (or, in the exact quaint words of the deed, "the tyme and terme of ffowerscore and Neenteene Yeares"), "yf the said George Percivall and [one] Robert Percivall, bastard sonne of the aforenamed Robert Percivall, deceased, or either of them, shall . . . so longe . . . live." (It is a curious feature in this deed that widow Percivall includes in the demise not only her own interest in the property, but that of Edmund, her son; and covenants against incumbrances by the latter also. No rent is reserved, the consideration being the price or premium of £8.) The witnesses are Edmund Kellsall, Thomas Richardson, "*alias* Wallworck," and John Leighe.

The later deed is the counterpart of a Lease, from the same Mr. Syddall (therein described, however, as of "Milkwall-Slade *alias* Slade") to "Edmund Percivall, of Gorton in the County of lanc. aforesaid, Taylor," of certain property of which Mr. Syddall is clearly indicated as freeholder, and not as leaseholder, and which is thus described in the deed: "One messuage, cottage and tenement . . . and one Crofte, close, medowe or parcell of land thereunto apperteyninge . . . conteyninge by estimacon halfe an acre of land . . . scituate . . . in Gorton aforesaid, heretofore in the tenure . . . of Joane Percivall, and now or late in the tenure . . . of the said Edmund Percival," for a term of 21 years, at a rent of thirty shillings—which rent is in the lease described as 10s. below the actual fair rent—reduced on account of the rather stringent repairing covenants which the deed contains. The witnesses to this deed are Thomas Birche, John Hartley, and Charles Leighe.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LEGENDS OF LANCASHIRE

(Query No. 3,822, March 21.)

[3,827.] The volume alluded to by Mr. Partington was, I think, published by a Mr. Cocker, bookseller, Wigan. It has long been out of print and almost forgotten. I forget who was the author, but I think Mr. Wall, the publisher of the *Wigan Observer*, can give the information. A reprint of the book was at one time contemplated.

LONDINUM.

JOHN REILLY.

(Query No. 3,821, March 21.)

[3,828.] Mr. John Reilly, author of a *History of Manchester*, was, I believe, connected in business with Mr. Whellan, who many years ago published some important county directories which were printed in Manchester, and the chief management of which was, I think, in Mr. Reilly's hands. I forget who published the *History of Manchester*. Doubtless it could be seen at the free libraries, and possibly the publisher of it might know something of Mr. Reilly.

LONDINUM.

GRAVES IN PRIVATE GROUNDS.

(Nos. 3,814 and 3,820.)

[3,829.] When I lived at Grindlow House, 294, Stockport Road, Longsight, some sixteen years back, there was a legend attached to the house that a former occupant had been buried in his own garden. I often tried to learn the truth of this legend, but was not successful, as to the name of the buried man nor the time when he was interred. In the old maps of Manchester, say eighty years or more ago, Grindlow House was marked as an isolated dwelling, with much ground around it.

H. R. FORREST.

Birmingham.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.

(Query No. 3,824, March 21.)

[3,830.] The lines referred to form part of a sonnet by Hartley Coleridge—the third, fourth, and two concluding lines being omitted. "J. J." will find the sonnet in Main's *Treasury of English Sonnets* (Manchester: A. Ireland and Co. 1880) p. 166.

C. E. TYRER.

Crumpsall.

* * *

The Sonnet, beautiful in its naturalness, sublime in its philosophy, about whose authorship your correspondent "J. J." inquires, was written by Hartley Coleridge, eldest son of S. T. Coleridge, who was born in 1796, and died January, 1849. It appears in his posthumous poems, published by his brother, Derwent Coleridge, in 1850. Hartley's Sonnets only want to be better known to be more fully appreciated.

JOHN B. GREENWOOD.

The following is the Sonnet in full:—

Let me not deem that I was made in vain,
Or that my being was an accident,
Which Fate, in working its sublime intent,
Not wished to be—to hinder, would not deign.
Each drop uncounted in a storm of rain

Hath its own mission, and is duly sent
To its own leaf or blade, not idly spent
'Mid myriad dimples on the shipless main.
The very shadow of an insect's wing,
For which the violet cared not while it stayed,
Yet felt the lighter for its vanishing,
Proved that the sun was shining by its shade;
Then can a drop of the eternal spring,
Shadow of living lights in vain be made.

QUERIES.

[3,831.] SAINT ANNE'S CHURCH, MANCHESTER.—Who was the architect of St. Anne's Church, St. Anne's Square, Manchester, and are there any books written about the church from an architectural point of view?

J. J. S.

[3,832.] ROADSIDE STONE IN LONGSIGHT.—What is the stone in the form of three steps at the corner of Birch Lane, Longsight? I see it bears the date of 1776. What has it been used for?

GEORGE ELLIOTT.

[3,833.] PINK BANK COTTAGES, GORTON.—Who built Pink Bank Cottages, better known as the Ten Houses, situated in the fields near Gorton, and why were they built in such an out-of-the-way situation? Was it a kind of speculation?

GEORGE ELLIOTT.

[3,834.] GENEALOGICAL TABLES OF SOVEREIGNS. I would thank some reader to direct me to a book in English—failing this, in French or German—containing genealogical tables of the Sovereigns of Europe and other countries, but especially of Europe, from the earliest times, or at least for the last 400 years, down to the present time. The sort of genealogical tables I want are such as are found in the *Student's Hume's England*, with descent on both paternal and maternal side.

GENUS.

SEAGULLS AND SPRATS.—With these species of fish and fowl our immediate coasts abound. Sprats were never known to be so plentiful here before, and as the tide recedes the sands are left covered with them, and especially is this so in the creeks, where none can escape with the ebbing tide. Men, women, and children have been collecting them from the sands in bags and baskets, and they will furnish many a family with a few good meals. The seagulls are having a good time of it, and one would almost fancy just now that they are as plentiful as the sprats. For the last two or three days there have been immense flocks of them here after the sprats, and the many thousands of them to be seen on the sands form a pretty sight.—*Skegness Herald*.

Saturday April 4, 1885.

NOTES.

A SPURIOUS HISTORY OF MANCHESTER.

[3,835.] The elder Disraeli in his delightful *Curiosities of Literature* tells us of authors who sold their names to be prefixed to works they never read, or, on the contrary, have prefixed the names of others to their own writings; but I think he does not give us an instance of a book falling into the hands of a "sharp" member of the trade who deliberately prints a new title-page with the name of another author upon it. It is such a case of literary fraud I wish to describe. The following appears in the recently-published catalogue of a well-known and highly respectable second-hand bookseller in Lancashire:—

UNIQUE COPY.

MANCHESTER—Harland's (J.) Early History of MANCHESTER and SALFORD, from the most remote period, w. Acct. of ANCIENT LANCASHIRE FAMILIES and their BARONIES, a full Translation of the SALFORD CHARTER, and many ANTI-QUARIAN NOTICES; to this copy a former owner has added *original drawings, water colours and engr. (54 in number) illustrating Ancient Buildings, Relics, etc., of Manchester, and the whole is folded, ready for binding, £3 10s, Manchester, 25 copies privately printed for my friends, and not for sale, 1845.* 8vo

A most interesting and important lot, which should be secured at once by a local collector.

On close examination I find this "Unique Copy" to consist of a portion (256 pages) of *The People's History of Manchester*, by John Reilly, published about twenty years ago in twelve sixpenny parts, and bearing the name John Heywood, Deansgate, Manchester, on the imprint. The false title prefixed, representing the book to be written by the late John Harland, F.S.A., the well-known Lancashire antiquary, reads thus:—

The early History of Manchester and Salford from the most remote period, to the printing of the first newspaper, with an account of the Ancient Lancashire families and their baronies, and a full translation of the Salford Charter and many Antiquarian (sic) Notices, by J. Harland, F.S.A., Manchester, 25 copies privately printed for my friends, and not for sale, 1845.

The forger has made a mistake in the date of his production, because the late Mr. Harland was not elected F.S.A. until 1854. I need only add that the bookseller from whose catalogue the above extract is

taken was completely innocent of the fraud. He, like the bulk of the trade, has a more intimate knowledge of "outsides" than "insides," and believing in the integrity of the article offered to him bought accordingly. I understand there are other copies in the neighbourhood, and it will be well for the trade and local collectors to be on their guard.

G. H. S.

Heaton Moor.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF SOVEREIGNS.

(Query No. 3,834, March 28.)

[3,836.] GENUS will probably find the genealogical tables he wants in *An Epitome of History, Ancient, Medieval and Modern*. By Carl Ploetz. London, Blackie. F. P.

* * *

GENUS will find pedigrees of European sovereigns in *Haydn's Universal Index of Biography*, edited by J. Bertrand Payne; and in the ninth volume of Grote's *Münzstudien*. Both these works may be seen at the Free Reference Library, King-street.

E. C. A. A.

ROADSIDE STONE IN LONGSIGHT.

(Query No. 3,832, March 28.)

[3,837.] The stone in the form of three steps will be an old horse-block. They were to be found before most wayside inns in the days when travelling on horseback was general, and women had to mount on pillions behind husband or servant.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

This stone is known by the old inhabitants as a Horseing stock. Its use is to assist riders upon their horses' backs. There is another stone like this one by the side of Poplar Cottage, 68, Wilmslow Road, Rusholme.

E. FENNAH.

Kirkmanshulme Lane.

JOHN REILLY.

(Nos. 3,821 and 3,823.)

[3,838.] Reilly's *History of Manchester* was published in Manchester, by "John Gray Bell, Oxford-street; James Galt and Co., Ducie-street, Exchange; Reilly and Co., 376, Rochdale Road; London, John Russell Smith, Soho Square, 1861." I procured my copy from J. R. Smith. John Reilly was also the author of *A History and Topography of Cumberland and Westmorland*. He was the author of some history in two volumes, the title of which has slipped

my memory. I think it was of some town in Yorkshire. It is a great pity his *History of Manchester* was left incomplete through want of sufficient patronage.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

PYFLETS AND BRIEF.

(Nos. 3,808 and 3,819.)

[3,839.] Having been resident now some years in Leicestershire I can confirm the statement that in this county this word is in use for Pyklet; but I write not so much to confirm as to explain. As a Lancashire man, on first coming here, I was struck with the popular aversion to any sharp-sounding word, as indicated by the manner many such words were altered. For instance, rubble I noticed is here changed to rummel; crop to crap; Thorpe to Tharpe; and an old woman, a near neighbour, never says "often," it is always pronounced "affen." It is this county objection to what is too sharp that has perverted the proper form, and made pyflet do duty for pyklet. In the neighbourhood of Uppingham people use "brief" for common or plentiful. For instance, "colds, it is remarked, are brief just now." Can any reader explain this extraordinary use of the term brief.

J. GODSON.

Ashby Folville.

GRAVES IN PRIVATE GROUNDS.

(Nos. 3,814, 3,820, and 3,829.)

[3,840.] In a garden on Rider Brow, Gorton, within two hundred yards of Gorton Hall, may be seen a square tomb, with the following inscription cut on it: "James Barlow, of Levenshulme, yeoman, died March 15, 1826, aged ninety years." On the same tomb is recorded the death of his wife, who was buried in 1816. His coffin was prepared by his own directions some years before from an oak tree grown on his own estate. I have often heard it said that he stored apples in it for many years, and kept it in a room in his house. At one time there was a fine apple or pear tree growing over the grave.

S. TATTON.

London Road.

[Mr. E. Fennah, of Kirkmanshulme, sends similar information, and states that James Barlow had the garden consecrated at a cost of fifty pounds.]

* * *

If Mr. H. R. FORREST will make inquiries in Longsight he will find that there was an empty shell discovered at 294, Stockport Road, Longsight, during alterations, which at the time created great com-

motion among the inhabitants. I remember being told that it was from the wreck of the Royal Charter, the body of a lady being placed in a new shell and the old one buried in the said place. Some of your correspondents may know more of this,

WILLIAM STURM.

Hyde Grove, C-on-M.

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH.

(Query No. 3,831, March 28.)

[3,841.] *A Picture of Manchester*, by Joseph Aston, published in 1816, describes this church architecturally and pictorially, a wood-cut being given at the head of the sketch.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

J. J. S. will find an interesting account of St. Anne's Church in the *Manchester Guide*, published by Joseph Aston, bookseller, in the year 1804. It is a scarce book, but might be seen at some of the libraries in Manchester.

S. A.

Bowness-on-Windermere.

* * *

A pamphlet entitled *A Description of Manchester*, "by a native of the town" (being a reprint from a curious edition of 1783), published by John Heywood, Deansgate, contains the following reference to St. Anne's Church, the erection of which was begun in 1709:—

The lower part of St. Anne's Church is carried up in the Corinthian order, of an elegant taste, and the alcove at the east end finished in that style; but the view is too confined. There is a niche above intended for the statue of Queen Anne, but she died before the church was finished. The higher range of pilasters in the body of this church can be assigned to no order; it is said the artist or manager was changed by death or otherwise; yet there is the same exhibition of genius throughout at the east end. The steeple has gone through strange revolutions. There was first a cupola above the square part of the tower, which had some consistency with the architecture, as spires have generally with the Gothic; but instead of springing arches for this it was laid upon cross pieces of timber and carried up too high on so precarious a foundation, being likewise overloaded at the top with a monstrous vane and ornamental ironwork. This cupola was thought so dangerous that it was taken down some years since, before any plan was formed to substitute anything in its stead; and there was no provision made for repairs or alterations in the foundation. In that state it continued till a subscription was raised to heighten the tower and finish it with a spire. Contracts are often the ruin of public works. A contract to carry up the spire to such a height, at such a sum, made the undertaker curb in the lower dimensions of the spire too hastily, which, being overloaded with iron work, as injudiciously as before, was expected to fall the first storm: to prevent.

therefore, any misfortune, this was taken down, and the tower left in its present state. A cupola might have been finished from below, where the base of the spire had been curbed, at a little expense, either of wood or masonry, as this is a proper adjunct to the Corinthian Architecture, and looks better, like a balcony, than when carried higher. But there is a fatality in some human designs, when intended for the best: as those who have been concerned in this affair can sufficiently testify.

WILLIAM BLACKSTOCK.

Cornbrook.

QUERIES.

[3,842.] **HEDGE LAWYER.**—What is the origin and meaning of the term "hedge lawyer?"

ROWEST.

A NEW USE FOR MOSS.—In Norway and Sweden accumulations of moss, often more than a foot thick, and half decomposed, serve to make paper and millboard, as hard as wood, blocks of which, formed by the hydraulic press, may even be turned in the lathe and polished. This substance is said to possess the good qualities of wood without the defects, such as warping and splitting, so that it is suitable for making doors and windows.

IS OUR WATER SUPPLY DECREASING.—At the last meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society, the report of the Committee on Decrease of Water Supply was presented. This committee was appointed to take into consideration the question of the decrease of water in springs, streams, and rivers, and also the simultaneous rise of the flood-level in cultivated countries. As far as any inference can be drawn from the records collected by the committee, it appears that the years 1820, 1821, 1824, 1835, 1838, 1845, 1847, 1850, 1854, 1855, 1858, 1859, 1864, 1865, 1871, 1874, 1875, and 1884 have been periods of marked low water. On the other hand, the years 1817, 1825, 1830, 1836, 1841, 1842, 1853, 1860, 1861, 1866, 1873, 1877, 1879, 1881, and 1883 have been periods when there has been exceptionally high water. In 1852 the water was very low in the early part of the year, while at the end of the year it was very high. In the intervening periods the water has been of moderate altitude. It does not appear from existing records that there is any diminution in the water supply of this country, and the large quantity of water which has been stored or has overflowed off the ground between 1876 and 1884 is confirmatory of this view. There appear, however, to be periods when there is exceptionally low water, and these are almost immediately followed by periods of exceptionally high water. With reference to the increase of floods, it does not appear from the records that there is any great increase in the height to which the floods rise in this country. Whether or not the height to which floods have risen in recent years has been affected by river improvements and the greater facility with which floods can be got rid of, or whether there is a diminution in the quantity of water, are questions upon which the committee have not at present sufficient information to speak positively.

Saturday, April 11, 1885.

NOTES.

UMBRELLAS.

[3,843.] During my reading this week, I came across a passage stating that Jonas Hannay, who died in 1786, was the first person in this country to carry an umbrella. But he could hardly have been the first to use one. Gay, in his *Trivia* published in 1712, says:—

Good housewives all the winter's rage despise,
Defended by the riding-hood's disguise;
Or underneath th' umbrella's oily shed,
Safe through the wet in clinking pattens tread.

Umbrellas were used in England at first only by ladies; any man who carried one was looked upon as effeminate. In Italy the umbrella was used centuries ago by high dignitaries in the Church as indicative of rank. The antiquity of the umbrella is beyond question, and strong reasons are alleged in favour of the view that it is of Asiatic origin, and was invented to be used for protection from the sun, as is our parasol. Umbrellas were, for instance, held in fine weather over Tartar nobles and their wives, walking or riding. In Burmah the use of a white umbrella has always been restricted to the King and to shielding images of Gautama. In the East, except in China, the umbrella is an emblem of authority. It is doubtful whether umbrellas were always of the shape now common and, I suppose, universal. In the Middle Ages a square umbrella appears to have been used in Italy. Perhaps some of your readers can throw light upon the origin of the umbrella, its religious, political, and personal uses. X.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GENEALOGICAL TABLES OF SOVEREIGNS.

(Nos. 3,834 and 3,836.)

[3,844.] I apprehend the historical student will find useful comparisons in Breedow's Chronological Tables, as likewise in those of Laplace—the former a German compilation, the latter a French one. Both are translated into English, and, I believe, brought up to very recent dates. The genealogies prefixed to Benjamin Vincent's *Index of Biography* (Haydn series, Moxon and Co., 1877) will be found of assistance when studying the rise and ramifications of the ruling families of Europe.

H. R. FORREST.

Birmingham.

HEDGE LAWYER.

(Query No. 3,842, April 4.)

[3,845.] The term "hedge" in this instance implies deterioration. Thus we have "hedge-priest," a very ignorant priest, and "hedge-alehouse," a small obscure alehouse. In the north a secret clandestine marriage is termed a "hedge-marriage." In *Hollyband's Dictionary*, 1593, we find "hedge-creeper," a wily crafty vagabond and thief. "Un avanturier vagabond qui fait la regnardiére de peur des coups." We have also "hedge-mustard," "hedge-writer" (a Grub-street author), and "hedge-bore," meaning rough and unskilful, and applied to a bad workman. Shakspeare uses the phrase "hedge-born swain" as the opposite of "gentle blood"—

And should (if I were worthy to be judge),
Be quite degraded, like a hedge-born swain
That doth presume to boast of gentle blood.

King Henry VI., part I., act iv., sc. 1.

The origin of the phrase appears to be lost in obscurity, but the use of the word "hedge" for vagabond, or very inferior, is still common in many parts of Lancashire and Cheshire.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

GRAVES IN PRIVATE GROUNDS.

(No. 3,840 and others.)

[3,846.] The late Thomas Bateman, author of *The Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire*, and *Ten Years' Diggings in Celtic and Saxon Grave Hills*, was buried in the grounds behind his residence, Middleton Hall, near Youghreave, Derbyshire. I remember driving past his place with a clergyman who had been vicar of the parish, and he spoke of Mr. Bateman, for being so buried by his own desire, as an "old heathen." I did not know Mr. Bateman; but, in 1853-4, I had some correspondence with him. Mr. Sydney Smithers, at that time agent to the Duke of Devonshire for the Buxton estate, had employed some men to widen and raise the entrance to Poole's Cavern by blasting the rocks, and to remove a large mound which blocked the approach to the cavern. Imbedded in this mound seven human skeletons were found, buried, according to ancient custom, with a large number of rats' bones and teeth and the antlers of stags. The skeletons were almost perfect, but many of the bones crumbled at a touch. The teeth in the skulls were sound and regular—no dentist had touched them. I wrote to Mr. Bateman telling him of the discovery. As he was too unwell to come himself, he sent a relative, who collected

and carefully removed the relics, and I saw them in his museum—the best collection of local antiquities in Derbyshire—only a few years ago, properly labelled and described. There was nothing to warrant the term "old heathen" in his letters to me, which expressed a very intelligent interest in the discovery. Previously I had tried to draw the attention of several educated men in this neighbourhood to the matter. There was much of the ignorance of "heathen" in their indifference, and the interesting relics were removed from Buxton. As a matter of taste, a burial in your own grounds, amidst picturesque surroundings with which you have been long familiar, is much to be preferred to an interment in a neglected, damp, and pestiferous churchyard—(like St. John's at Buxton, for instance, an unfenced and disgraceful God's acre)—however "consecrated" it may be, dangerous to the health of the living, and so repulsive that you shudder to commit your nearest and dearest to its offensive keeping.

There is another private burial place at Errwood Hall, on the Goyt, where the remains of the late Samuel Grimshaw, J.P., and his infant son are interred; but this mausoleum, in the private grounds on a hill behind the Hall, has, of course, been consecrated according to the rites of the Catholic Church.

J. C. BATES.

Nuttall Terrace, Buxton.

* * *

In John Higson's *Historical Records of Gorton* is the following:—"Mary, wife of the late Dr. Birch, was buried in the summer-house in the garden in Grindlow, May 10, 1694." The tomb of Dr. Birch and his wife existed at Longsight Hall in 1850. What has become of it? In reply to Mr. E. FENNAH, I may add that Mr. John Higson told me that the ground on Rider Brow, Gorton, never was consecrated, but J. Barlow left some money for the expenses of the two ministers that buried him. J. Barlow was a Calvinist, and the last survivor of the old (second appointed) trustees of the Dissenting Chapel, now Brookfield Church, Gorton.

S. TATTON.

London Road.

QUERIES.

[3,847.] ARMS OF THE NEWBYS.—What is the coat of arms and motto of the family of Newby, an old North Lancashire family? The crest is "an arm in armour brandishing a sword, proper."

FOXFIELD.

Saturday, April 18, 1885.

NOTES.

A COACHMAN OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

[3,848.] On Monday last William Lees died at the house of his son, the King's Arms Hotel, in Chapel-en-le-Frith. William Lees had been a coachman of the old school, and as he owned and drove the Duke of Devonshire coach between Manchester and Buxton for many years, he will be well known to the older readers of the *City News*. He succeeded his uncle—another William Lees—who had driven the same coach for a long time. When the coaches were superseded by railways with luxuriantly cushioned carriages and foot-warmers, instead of the “outside” under broiling suns, heavy rains, strong winds, or frost and snow, William Lees retired to hotel keeping, and became the owner of the Railway Hotel, at Whaley Bridge, which is still carried on in his name; subsequently he purchased and worked for some years the Midland Hotel, at Buxton. He also established his son in the King's Arms Hotel, at Chapel-en-le-Frith. Of an energetic and enterprising nature, he visited the United States, where he made arrangements for importing large quantities of hams and bacon; and he also bought and imported Yankee horses. Many will hear of his death, at the age of fifty nine, with regret, for under a rough exterior he carried a warm and affectionate heart—a good kernel in a rude husk. As an instance of the “ruling passion,” it may be stated that, a day or two before he died, when weak and wandering, he held his left hand for the “ribbons” as in days of yore, and with his right he feebly fumbled for the whip, saying he “had a long journey to go!”

B.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE ARMS OF THE NEWBYS.

(Query No. 3,487, April 11.)

[3,849.] Burke's *Armory* gives the following notes on the arms of the Newbys:—

Newby (North Fenton, co. York).—Ar. two stilts, in saltire, sable garnished or.

Newby.—The same arms. Crest, an arm, in armour, brandishing a sword proper.

Newby.—Ar. two stilts, in saltire, or.

Newby.—Ar. a fesse sable between three roses, gules.

Newby (Hooton, co. York).—Ar. a chevron between three crosses pattée, gules.

In the table of abbreviations, ar. is explained to mean silver or white; or. gold or yellow; and gules red.

FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

Cheetham Hill.

UMBRELLAS.

(Note No. 3,843, April 11.)

[3,850.] The belief is very prevalent that Jonas Hanway was the first to invent and use an umbrella. He was no doubt one of the first—perhaps *the* first—to use one in London, as a protection from rain; and we are told that “after continuing to use one for thirty years he saw them come into general use.” See Pugh's *Life of Hanway*. But the umbrella is of far greater antiquity. On page 136 of the second volume of Layard's *Nineveh and its Remains*, published in 1849, the reader will find an illustration entitled “The King in his Chariot Returning from Battle.” A servant is seen holding an umbrella over his head, and it is almost identical with what is now termed a “gig,” or carriage umbrella. The illustration is taken from one of the ancient bas-reliefs now in the British Museum. In Bohn's edition of Aristophanes, Vol. i. p. 376, the following line occurs:—“Enter Prometheus muffled up and covered with an umbrella.” Also, upon the same page, “take and hold this my umbrella over me overhead.” In a MS. of the tenth century, now in the British Museum, there is an illustration of a Saxon King with a servant holding an umbrella over his head, and in Quarles' *Emblems*, published in 1635, these lines occur:—

See, here's a shadow found: the human nature
Is made th' umbrella to the Deity.

The umbrella is also included in Kersey's *Dictionarium Anglo-Britannicum*, 1708. It was evidently in daily use in the year 1710, and Swift, in his poem entitled “A City Shower,” says:

The tucked-up sempstress walks with hasty strides,
While streams run down the oiled umbrella's sides.

From this we may infer that the umbrella of those days underwent a process of water-proofing previous to its being used. In Bailey's Dictionary, published about 1720, both the umbrella and the parasol are included. It was customary during the early years of the last century to keep a number of umbrellas at the taverns and coffee-houses. These were lent to “regular” customers in case of a sudden shower. Jonas Hanway died in 1786.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Rusholme.

* * *

Here in Cambridge, at times, the umbrella can almost be called an emblem of authority, for, as a rule, "dons" are the only men who when in cap and gown affect such articles. Like soldiers in uniform, the undergraduates in academics will have none of such things. Under similar circumstances sticks and gloves are also tabooed by the latter. They are as much the outward and visible signs of a "fresher" as sugar-tongs or handshaking.

SAM REKLAND.

Cambridge.

QUERIES.

[3,851.] **AS YOU LIKE IT.**—Will some Shakspearean reader please to give a list of some of the best commentaries on the above play?

J. MELLOR.

[3,852.] **PATENT THEATRE, MANCHESTER.**—Can any one who is versed in old Manchester lore give me information respecting a theatre with the above name, which, once upon a time, is said to have existed in Manchester, at the corner of Brown-street and Marsden-street?

H. C. B.

Moss Side.

[3,853.] **THE MOHAMMEDAN YEAR.**—How many days are there in a Mohammedan year, and is there any general rule for the sub-division of the same? The Hegira is computed from the 15-16 July, 622 A.D., and the present Mohammedan year is 1302; consequently the latter is much shorter than the Christian year. Does not this cause confusion as the seasons roll on?

H. R. FORREST.

Birmingham.

[3,854.] **THE PRETENDER AND THE CHURCH BELLS.**—Some weeks since I was informed by a friend that, upon the Pretender visiting Manchester in A.D. 1745, the bells of a certain church in the town were made to ring as a token of goodwill and welcome. My informant also stated that, after the suppression of the rebellion, in 1746, an injunction was issued prohibiting the bells of the said church from being used for the period of 400 years next ensuing. I should be pleased if I could obtain any information on the subject.

WILLIAM HENRY BRIERLEY.

Saturday, April 25, 1885.

NOTES.

A MANCHESTER ARTIST IN AMERICA.

[3,855.] The following paragraph is copied from a Rhode Island paper;—

A NOTEWORTHY EXHIBITION.—The collection of paintings which is to be opened to public view on Friday, in Mr. Hooper's gallery, is entitled to especial attention. It comprises the admirable work of Mr. J. N. Barlow, a young Englishman, whose name is unfamiliar to our readers, although he has lived in Providence for a year and a half, industriously painting Rhode Island landscape. He has hitherto refrained from exhibiting his pictures, and thus has prepared for lovers of good art a most delightful surprise. Nearly a hundred canvases, treating of a variety of subjects, await the appreciation which is deserved by the conscientious, open-air work of a rarely gifted artist. Unless we greatly mistake this community, the appreciation will be speedily forthcoming.

John Noble Barlow is a native of Manchester, in which city he was born in 1861, but he is probably as little known here as to the good people of Providence, nothing of his having been exhibited at the gallery in Mosley-street except a modest pencil sketch representing a peculiar aspect of the sky one October evening in 1882. His work is full of promise, the colouring being good. Landscape is his favourite work, but into this he throws those ideal touches which indicate the true artist. He delights in clouds, and carefully avoids the "regulation sky." His figures are excellent—a little crude, perhaps, but full of expression, or rather expressiveness. A group of infantile anglers; a school-girl resting by the road-side under a clump of trees; or a tottering old man (one tempted by the gift of an orange, and the other by a few coppers induced to stand a few minutes)—these are poetic touches in his pictures given with Birket Foster vivacity. The only purely figure piece I have seen of his represents a tired and threadbare woman, with an infant closely wrapped in her thin shawl, struggling through the snow as she bends slightly forward against the keen wind, the dreary way being relieved by a bramble twig still uncovered. My excuse for troubling you is that it is as good to record rising merit as to revive the memory of those who have been neglected in the past.

W. WIPER.

Higher Broughton.

AN OLD MANCHESTER DEED.

[3,856.] I possess an old parchment indenture, of which the following particulars will be interesting to most readers of the *City News*. The deed is dated in the "ffourthe yere of the Regne of oʀ sou'ayne Lord, Edward the Syxte" (1549)—a king, one of whose descriptions given in the deed is "of the Church of England, and also of Ireland, in Erthe the Sup'me heade"—and is made between "the Right Honorable Sr Thomas West, knyght, Lord La Warre [Lord of the Manor of Manchester], on the one ptie and Adam Oldom, of Manchester . . husbandman on the other ptie." It recites that "Alexander Rigby and John Hewethson haue sewed [sued] a wrytt of Entre [entry] in the post Against the forsaid Adam Oldom Before the Justices of oʀ sou'ayne Lord the Kyng at Lancaster, demaundyng, by the same wrytte, one messuage, one Gardeyne, thre Acres of Land, thre Acres of medowe and thre Acres of pasture. . in Manchester." Under this proceeding recovery seems to have been suffered against Lord La Warr; in consideration of which result, Oldom, by the deed in question, "dothe gyve and graunt to the said Sr Thomas West, knyght, Lord La Warre, his heyres and Assignes, one Annuytie or Annuall Rent of Eighte Shillinges and Syxe pence," payable out of the said property, as also a rent, of equal amount, "ffrom tyme to tyme, when and as often as hit shall hapen any p'son or p'sons do dye seased [seized] of the p'misses . . for . . a Reliefe." The deed then gives the chief-rent owner the usual summary remedies, by distraint or re-entry, for speedy recovery of the rents so granted; and, after providing the landholder with a warranty of undisturbed possession, concludes by stating that "to bryng the said Sr Thomas West, Knyght, Lord La Warre to the Actuell and Reall possession of the forsaid sev'all Rents the sayd Adam Oldom hathe putte" his Lordship into actual "season," "by paying, gyvyng and delyv'ng" to him "ffourepenche of lawful money of England."

Lord La Warr signs, above his seal, in a bold hand, "Thomas la Warre." No witnesses' signatures or names are given.

I need only add that the above named nobleman was the distinguished Knight of the Garter and Knight banneret, the 9th Baron de la Warr, and 8th Baron West, who took an active part in the Reformation, and who was one of the Barons who subscribed the declaration to Pope Clement VII., intimating that

the latter's supremacy in England would not be longer acknowledged, if his Holiness did not comply with the request of Henry VIII. for a divorce from Queen Katherine. Lord La Warr, having no children, adopted his nephew, William West, as his intended successor; but this nephew, impatient to enjoy his expectant honours, prepared poison to despatch his benefactor—an act of baseness which, when discovered, led Parliament to pass a special act, disabling the ingrate from succeeding his uncle, or from holding any other dignity. In the reign of Elizabeth, however, these disabilities were removed, and among other honours the De La Warr peerage was revived in this William. It was this peer who alienated the Manor of Manchester from the family in whose ownership it had been for five centuries. Thomas, Lord La Warr, party to the above described deed, died in 1554 (*temp.* Queen Mary).

I gather from a later deed (which may form the subject of a later note) that the property dealt with by the above indenture was situate in "Newton Lane," Manchester. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.
24, Brown-street.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE DUCHY OF CORNWALL.

[3,857.] Three weeks ago a correspondent made an inquiry about the Duchy of Cornwall, to which answer was given as follows:—

The title of Prince of Wales is not inherited by the eldest son of the sovereign, but has usually been bestowed by patent and investiture, though, in a few instances, the heir to the throne has become Prince of Wales simply by being so declared. The eldest son of the sovereign is Duke of Cornwall by inheritance. It is understood that Prince Edward of Wales will succeed to this minor title in the event of his father ascending the throne.

This editorial reply was called in question by "J. L. B.," who wrote, "No present son of the Prince of Wales can ever hold the title of Duke of Cornwall. The nature of this appanage is singular. It belongs to the first son of the monarch actually on the throne." Last week, Mr. A. Ingram replied that "J. L. B." was in error, and cited Lodge's *Peerage* in support of his contention. The following communications have now been received, and as the subject is one of considerable historic interest, it has been thought advisable to take the controversy from the Correspondence Department, and place it on more permanent record among the Notes and Queries.

EDITOR.

I am not in the habit of airing my views upon subjects of which I know little, and if your correspondent, Mr. A. Ingram, will refer to the following acknowledged "authorities," he will find that when I said, "no present son of the Prince of Wales can ever hold the title of Duke of Cornwall," I had at least some foundation for the statement. Kearsley's *Peerage*, 1802, on page 11, speaking of George Frederick, Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.), in reference to his title of Duke of Cornwall, says, "It belongs only to the eldest son of the king actually on the throne. If the Prince, therefore, had a son before the event of his succession, that son would not be Duke of Cornwall, or, in case of his Royal Highness's death, it would not descend to the Duke of York." This is clear and precise. Collins's *Peerage*, 1812, edited by Sir Egerton Brydges, vol. 1, page 40, speaking of the charter conferring the title on Edward the Black Prince, says, "Wherein he was declared Duke of Cornwall to hold to himself and his heirs, *Kings of England and their first-born sons*; by virtue of which charter the eldest son of the King of England is by law acknowledged Duke of Cornwall the instant he is born." Burke also speaks of the eldest son of the King becoming Duke of Cornwall *at his birth*. If, then, the holder of the title must be a son born to the King (or Queen), how can Prince Edward, who was a son born to the heir apparent, take it by succession?

Mr. Ingram's quotation from Lodge, though somewhat vaguely worded, is not inconsistent with this, as the words "eldest sons and heirs apparent" evidently mean eldest sons who are heirs apparent, as distinguished from heirs apparent who are not sons. But if he does use the term "eldest sons and heirs apparent," he certainly does not speak of eldest sons of heirs apparent, yet strangely enough, this is the point upon which Mr. Ingram founds Prince Edward's eligibility to succeed!

Can Mr. Ingram mention any one instance where, since its creation, the title has been borne by other than the eldest son of the monarch actually on the throne? Edward the Black Prince, upon whom it was first conferred, died during his father's lifetime. His son Richard then became heir apparent, but not Duke of Cornwall, he being grandson to the King. Frederick, son of George II, though Prince of Wales, was not Duke of Cornwall, as he was twenty years old when his father came to the throne. George IV was born to the title, his father being king at the

time. At his death, it merged in the Crown, again to be revived on the birth of our Prince of Wales. Mr. Ingram may, therefore, make up his mind to the fact that the Dukes of Cornwall are, like poets, "nascitur non fit."

In reply to your correspondent "W. W. P." I may say, that there appears no possibility of the Duchy being "severed" from the Crown, as in case of failure of issue, it has always merged in either the Crown or the Principality. Refer to the works mentioned above.

J. L. B.

* * *

Permit me a few lines upon this subject. So far from the mode of succession to these dignities being one of doubt, judging from precedents it appears to me to be unmistakeable. The titles of Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester are conferred afresh by new Patent upon every heir apparent—be he son or grandson—of a reigning Sovereign. In the strict sense of the term, therefore, these honours are not hereditary, and may be withheld at the royal will. There have been at least four instances of eldest sons of our kings who were not created Prince of Wales. With regard to the Duchy of Cornwall the case is different. Every eldest son of the monarch is born Duke of Cornwall, unless the birth happen before his father's accession to the Throne, in which case he inherits immediately upon his father becoming King. This is in accordance with the terms of the Patent of Edward III. correctly quoted from Lodge by your correspondent A. Ingram, by which the dignity was entailed upon the Black Prince "and his heirs, eldest sons and heirs apparent to the Crown of England for ever."

It follows, therefore, that whenever the Prince of Wales becomes King of England, Prince Edward, as the eldest son and heir apparent of the Sovereign, will immediately become Duke of Cornwall. There is, however, a possible contingency in which the Prince would not inherit the Duchy, namely, in the event of his father, the Prince of Wales, dying before the Queen. In this case, although in accordance with precedent, the prince would be created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, he could not be Duke of Cornwall, because, while "heir apparent" he would not also be "eldest son" of the Sovereign, both conditions being necessary to the succession. Should such a contingency arise the Duchy of Cornwall would lapse to the Crown and so remain until another eldest son was born to a

sovereign. This point is clearly illustrated in the case of George III. His father Frederick, Prince of Wales, died in 1751, nine years before King George II. Prince George was immediately created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, and moreover inherited the Duchy of Edinburgh, to which his father had been created in the usual way; but he was never Duke of Cornwall, King George II. holding that Duchy until his death in 1760.

By no possibility can a younger son of the Sovereign inherit the Duchy of Cornwall—as suggested by your correspondent “J. L. B.”—save in the case of the elder dying in the lifetime of the monarch without issue. There have been two instances where this has occurred, namely, Arthur, Prince of Wales, eldest son of Henry VII., and Henry, Prince of Wales, eldest son of James I. Each of these was followed as Duke and Prince by his next brother. Some doubt was expressed at the time as to whether even this was allowable under the Patent of Edward III., whether the term “*filius primogenitus natus*” included the more comprehensive “*filius primogenitus existens*.” Eventually it was decided by the Privy Council to have this meaning so that the Duke of Cornwall may be either the “eldest born” or “eldest surviving” son and heir apparent of the Sovereign.

There is an aspect of the succession to the Duchy of Cornwall which I think has not been sufficiently noticed. I cannot do better than put it in the words of the late W. Courthope (*Historic Peerage*, p. 12):—“Upon the accession of the House of Brunswick, all right derived by inheritance from the Black Prince ceased and determined, and it is difficult to conceive by what title George Augustus, son and heir apparent of King George I., became possessed of the Dukedom of Cornwall, unless we adopt a construction still more liberal than that of the Privy Council of King James I. to the original statute.” The fact seems to be that under the original Patent of Creation two essential conditions were necessary to the succession. Whoever inherited must be heir of the Black Prince as well as eldest son and heir apparent of the Sovereign. The Princes of the House of Brunswick undoubtedly comply with the latter condition, but as certainly they are not heirs of the Black Prince. No Prince of Wales has fulfilled the twofold limitation in the original Patent since the abdication of James II. The point has never been brought to the front; and, if it were, a way out of the difficulty would

doubtless be found, by, if needs be, the making of a special Act for the purpose. Still it is a point worth noting in connection with the subject.

Your correspondent “W. W. P.” will find full particulars as to the succession both of the Prince of Wales and the Duchy of Cornwall in the work already quoted, i.e., Courthope’s *Historic Peerage*.

W. D. PINK.

Leigh.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

UMBRELLAS.

(Nos. 3,843 and 3,850.)

[3,858.] I remember full seventy-five years ago a person in Nottingham who was said to have been the first who ever used an umbrella in that town. He was familiarly spoken of as “Umbrella Harvey.”

ELLICE.

Craven.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

(Query No. 3,851, April 18.)

[3,859.] Some of the best commentaries on *As You Like It* are to be found in the following works: *Shakspeare, his Life, Art, and Characters*, by H. N. Hudson; *Shakespeare Commentaries*, by Professor G. G. Gerninus; *Shakespeare’s Dramatic Art*, by Dr. A. Ulrici; *Studies of Shakspeare*, by George Fletcher; *Shakspeare’s Characters*, by Charles Cowden Clark; and Charles Knight’s *Studies of Shakspeare*. The best philological commentary that I know of is in the Clarendon Press edition of Shakspeare’s *As You Like It*, edited by W. Aldis Wright, M.A.

JAMES T. DEWHURST.

Bury.

THE PRETENDER AND THE CHURCH BELLS.

(Query No. 3,854, April 18.)

[3,860.] When Prince Charlie occupied Manchester in 1745 the bells of the Old Church were rung by order of the Rev. Thomas Coppoch, who was subsequently executed at Carlisle. The old tradition that the bells of St. Anne’s pealed forth a welcome to the hero of the hour has proved fallacious, seeing that its tower has never held more than one tintinabulator; and therefore the edict that “they” were silenced for one century can never have gone forth. For a minute account of those stirring times, when our city was conquered by an army composed only of a sergeant, a drummer, a woman, and a dog, see the *Journal* of Dr. Byrom (Chetham Society). The worshippers at St. Anne’s had no sympathy with the Stuart cause.

XIPHIAS.

QUERIES.

[3,861.] J. E. ECCLES, ARTIST.—What is the value of a picture in my possession? The name J. E. Eccles is on it, with date 1864. It is about 36 inches by 28. The subject is supposed to represent two gipsies incarcerated in prison for fortune telling. K. A.

[3,862.] THOMAS NEWBY, ARTIST.—In your last issue the arms of the Newby family were given, and whilst the name is before us I should like to ask if any information can be given respecting Thomas Newby, landscape painter, who flourished about fifty or sixty years since. To me it appears a thorough North Yorkshire name. LIMNER.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.—The Incorporated Society of Authors now consists of 302 members. In a report just presented it is stated that the work undertaken comprises (1) the reform of the copyright laws; (2) the relations between authors and publishers; and (3) protection and assistance of authors. With regard to the second category, the committee have received a great number of letters referring to matters in dispute between authors and publishing houses. They have considered each of these cases separately; in some of them they have taken active steps for the author, in others they have advised the applicants as to the course they should follow. A few of these cases have been selected, and are enumerated as follows. Not one of these cases had to do with what are recognised as high-class publishing houses:—
(a) A. B. published a book with C. D. on these terms: He was to receive a certain sum of money for the copyright in full, of which a certain proportion was paid down, and he was to receive the remainder when the sale of the "first edition" had been completed. C. D., the publisher, made A. B. sign an agreement, but signed nothing himself, and endeavoured to evade his obligations by doubling the number of copies commonly understood to compose a first edition.
(b) A. B. published a novel with C. D., on the "half-profit" system, A. B. paying a large sum down in advance towards expenses. The novel proved successful. C. D. sent in the accounts of the book after repeated demands, and actually placed the sum of money advanced by the author towards expenses on the wrong side of the account.
(c) A. B. published a book, undertaking to guarantee to the publisher the sale of so many copies. The accounts of the book, when sent in, showed a large sum charged to the author for alleged press corrections, but the publisher refused to produce evidence to support this charge.
(d) A. B. published a book on the "half-profit" system. C. D. sent in accounts showing an enormous charge for advertising, the vouchers for which he refused to produce; a very high percentage for commission, no mention of which had been made in the agreement, or was even hinted at in the correspondence; and eventually asserted that he was not the publisher, but had only acted as an agent in the matter. He also refused evidence of the correctness of the accounts sent in.

Saturday, May 2, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THOMAS NEWBY, ARTIST.

(Query No. 3,862, April 25.)

[3,863.] In connection with this query, it is perhaps worth noting that a previous inquirer failed to obtain any information. A correspondent, JABL, stated in the *City News* of October 21, 1882 (Q. No. 2,885), that he had an oil painting by Thomas Newby, much after the manner of Copley Fielding, and dated 1831; but to his request for information concerning the artist there was no answer.

ION.

BRIEF.

(No. 3,839, April 4.)

[3,864.] The Rev. J. GODSON, of Ashby Folville, calls attention to the above reference to the curious use of the word "brief" in Leicestershire, where, he tells us, it is employed in the sense of common or plentiful, and he asks for an explanation. Dr. Sebastian Evans, in his *Leicestershire Words and Phrases* (E. D. S.), gives the word with the meanings "prevalent, abundant," and intimates his belief that it is a corruption or country pronunciation of "rife." Hartshorne, in his *Salopia Antiqua*, gives a similar explanation. Miss Baker notes the use of the word in the same sense in Northamptonshire; and Mr. Robert Holland in Cheshire. N.

THE PATENT THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,852, April 18.)

[3,865.] I have a copy of the *Annals of Manchester*, edited by C. H. Timperley, published by Banks and Co., Exchange-street, 1839. On page 47 the following reference to the old play-house may be found: "1753—The Theatre, in Marsden-street, built and opened December 3; finally closed May 12, 1775." In the Manchester Directory for 1788 the old house is alluded to as follows:—"The Old Theatre is now converted into a newsroom and tavern, with a cotton warehouse below, the assembly room being continued yet above, which is large and elegantly furnished." I recollect the building, and as a specimen of architecture it was a mean and poor sample. I believe about the year 1852 the classes connected with the Manchester School of Design met in the place for a short time.

WILL DINSMORE.

QUERIES.

[3,866.] CATER-CORNERED.—How is anything placed when “cater-cornered?” For instance, a few days ago I was trying to balance a square parcel on a stone coping, when a passer-by said, “Put it cater-cornered, mon.”

E. W. PENISTONE.

[3,867.] CYCLING TOUR TO LINCOLN AND HIGH WYCOMBE.—Can any cyclist give the best route from Manchester to Lincoln and then southwards, visiting Boston, Crowland Abbey, Peterborough, Ely, Norwich, Cambridge, St. Albans, High Wycombe, and back to Manchester through Nottingham? What distance would it be, and what are the best guides and maps to these parts?

WHEELIST.

[3,868.] BUSKING.—During the strike at Denaby Main Collieries we have had parties of colliers singing and collecting money for the relief fund. On asking who they were I received the reply, “Oh, they are colliers busking.” Will some reader kindly tell me what is the meaning of “busking,” and whether it is only a Yorkshire dialect word or localism, or an ordinary English term?

E. W. PENISTONE.

[3,869.] PORTRAIT OF DR. MOFFAT.—Possibly some of your readers may be able to throw light on what has become of a picture in which I am much interested. It is a portrait of my father, the late Dr. Moffat, of South Africa, an oil painting about life-size taken in 1816, which has been lost sight of for thirty years. It is probably (if still in existence) in or about Manchester, though it might be in Ashton. The last place where it was certainly known of was in the house of James Smith, Dr. Moffat's father-in-law, who was a nurseryman at Dukinfield, and the picture is thought to have disappeared at the time of his removal from Dukinfield to Flixton. It would not be recognizable by those who knew Dr. Moffat in later years; for at the time it was taken he was only twenty one. He is represented in the deep stock and high coat collar of those days, with his hair brushed down over his forehead and his chin clean shaved. A miniature copy of it exists, from which this description is taken. I should be very glad of any suggestive information which would put me on the track of this picture. There is one of James Smith himself also missing under similar circumstances, but this would be even more difficult to identify.

J. S. MOFFAT.

26, Paternoster Square, London.

Saturday, May 9, 1885.

NOTES.

AN OLD MANCHESTER DEED: NEWTON LANE AND OLDHAM ROAD.

[3,870.] From a parchment deed-poll, in my possession, I have extracted (and translated from the original Latin) the following interesting particulars. The deed is dated 2nd August, in the second and third years of the reigns of Philip and Mary (King and Queen of England, France, Naples, Jerusalem, and Ireland; Defenders of the Faith; Prince of Spain and Seville; Archduke of Austria; Duke of Milan, Burgundy and Brabant; Count of Hapsburg, Flanders and the Tyrol): and is under the hands and seals of Robert Shawe, of “North-meyles” (North-Meols) in the County of Lancaster, yeoman, and George “p'dloue” (elsewhere, Proudlove), of Manchester, mercer—both of whom thereby release to Robert Oldom, of Manchester (his trade not given), and to his heirs and assigns, all their right and interest to or in a small close or plot of pasture land, situate in Manchester; lying along the south side of a way (*venella*) called “Newton Lane”; then late in the occupation of Adam Oldom, then deceased; and containing a third of an acre of land. This small close, it is further stated, was formerly the property of Sir Thomas West, K.G., Lord La Warr, then also deceased—a proprietorship which formed the subject of my last note (*City News*, April 25). Above the two respective (pendant) seals, attached to the deed, are the signatures of the grantors as follow: “p. me, Robt'm Shawe,” and “by me, george proudluffe.” Witnesses are not named or referred to.

“Newton Lane,” by a curious coincidence, has become “Oldham Road,” but *not*, it is certain, on account of the connection with it of either Adam or Robert Oldham, or Oldom.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

FLAT-IRON MARKET.

[3,871.] Your contributors of the interesting articles on “Bye-ways of Manchester Life,” after describing his hunt for the flat-irons, asks—“Why will names be so persistently misleading?” This portion of Salford has borne the name of Flat-iron before ever the

market was thought of. If my memory serves me right, and he will refer to the papers at the time of the migration of the market from Knott Mill for the purpose of those unfortunate improvements, he will find it advertised that the auctioneers and others who attended the "rag market" were removing to the "flat-iron." Your contributor need not have been driven to despair had he noticed the three streets which run round the church. He would have seen that they form a kind of a triangle resembling the bottom part of a flat-iron—hence the name. I remember when a lad the junction of Chester Road and City Road was called "Smothering-iron Corner" for the same reason, and I have lately heard the junction of City Road and Medlock-street, opposite the Gas Works, called the Gas Works Flat-iron.

The Salford Flat-iron has been more or less a lively place ever since I knew it. Seventeen or eighteen years ago, when first public-houses were not allowed to open before six a.m. in Manchester, the same law did not apply to Salford, and the Royal Archer (now pulled down), situated near the Flat-iron, opened at four a.m. Consequently about 3 30 a.m. the early birds of Manchester and Salford, those who had been awakened with parched throats, night cabmen, and swells who had been out on the spree, with a fair sprinkling of unfortunates, could be seen wending their way from all directions to the Flat-iron, where a very lively scene usually presented itself until far on in the forenoon.

I may say the market bore the name of the "rag market" for some time, but the local name became too strong, though an attempt was made to give it the name of "Trinity Market."

F. LEARY.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLING TOUR TO LINCOLN AND HIGH WYCOMBE.

(Query No. 3,867, May 2.)

[3,872.] The best route from Manchester is by Woodhead, Sheffield, Worksop, and East Retford, to Lincoln. Then by Sleaford to Boston, by Spalding to Crowland, and on to Peterborough. Norwich is the awkward part of WHEELIST's course, being so far off the direct route; but I have thought of a plan by which he can manage it, and not go over the same road twice. Let him go from Peterborough by Wisbeach, King's Lynn, Swaffham, and East Dereham,

to Norwich. Then by Wymondham, Attleborough, Thetford, and Newmarket to Ely; and from thence to Cambridge. Then by Royston, Baldock, Stevenage, Welwyn, and Hatfield to St. Albans. Then by Watford, Rickmansworth, Amersham, to High Wycombe. Then by Prince's Risborough, Wendover, Aylesbury, Winslow, Buckingham, Towcester, Northampton, Market Harborough, Leicester, and Loughborough to Nottingham. Then by Ambergate, Matlock, Bakewell, Buxton, and Stockport to Manchester. The above are all direct routes over main roads, and of course can be varied infinitely according to the taste of the rider. The distance is about 600 miles.

There are no better guides than Murray's and Black's. There are no better maps than Houlston's district maps, fourpence each, which can be had at Day's. The scale is four miles to an inch, just about right; they are exceedingly portable and are so cheap that, if necessary, they can be thrown away when done with. Many people prefer county maps. Phillips' small county atlas is very cheap. Take it in pieces, and carry the maps you require in a loose case. They are handy in wind and rain, but they are a perfect nuisance to fix a route by; they are on different scales, a great drawback; and they are much inferior to the maps first mentioned which overlap. I am not certain that the latter cover the whole of England, but I fancy they do; at any rate if there are any gaps, they will be so small as not to be worth mentioning. In nothing do cyclists differ more than in choice of maps. I once came across one who was travelling by the hundred miles together, by the aid of nothing but the railway map out of Bradshaw's sixpenny guide; but give me a good map, and I will go anywhere. As the touring season is coming on, I strongly recommend cyclists to choose their own routes. Tastes differ so much, that each rider can best fix his own. Some riders think the most of good roads, others of fine scenery, others, like WHEELIST, have a taste for ecclesiastical buildings. I myself like a bit of everything. A good plan is to read up your route beforehand, and make notes of the places you particularly wish to see. I may say that distances can be easily and correctly measured on a map on a scale of four miles to the inch, by means of a piece of thin twine, following carefully the windings of the roads. But on small scale maps this does not do, you lose too much.

Salford.

W. BINNS.

QUERIES.

[3,873.] **REGENT ROAD BRIDGE.**—In what year was Regent Road Bridge opened, what was the cost for erection, when was it declared free, and what were the names of the gentlemen who took active interest in getting the bridge freed? **ORDSALL.**

[3,874.] **MUSGROVE, ARTIST.**—Can any reader say who the above artist was, whether of any repute, and where located? **ENQUIRER.**

[In the list of deceased Lancashire and Cheshire Artists, published by the Manchester Literary Club, there is this entry:—"John Musgrave, pen-and-ink draughtsman, died between 1845 and 1850." Is it the same man?—Ed.]

THE AUTHOR OF MANGALL'S QUESTIONS.—In a useful bibliography of Cheshire, now appearing by instalments in the *Stockport Advertiser*, the writer states that Richmal Mangnall, daughter of James Mangnall and Richmal, his wife, was born in Manchester. She died on the first of May, 1820, at Crofton Hall, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, where she kept her school, and was buried in Crofton churchyard. Her sister married Mr. William Coppock, of Stockport; and Joseph Clarke, of Little Underbank, Stockport, printed in 1800, the first edition, published anonymously, of *Historical and Miscellaneous Questions for the use of Young People* (now known as *Mangnall's Questions*), and in 1805, for Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, of London, *Half-an-Hour's Lounge; or Poems*, by Richmal Mangnall.

A HUGUENOT SOCIETY IN LONDON.—At a meeting held in London on Wednesday, it was decided to form a Huguenot Society with the following objects:—(1.) The interchange and publication of knowledge relating to the history of the Huguenots in France, the Huguenot emigrations from France, the refuge settlements throughout the world, particularly those in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands, and the resulting effects of those settlements upon the professions, manufactures, commerce, and social life of the several places in which they were made; Huguenot genealogy and heraldry, and Huguenot Church and other registers. (2.) To form a bond of fellowship among some of those who inherit or admire the characteristic Huguenot virtues, and who desire to perpetuate the memory of their Huguenot ancestors. Sir Austen Henry Layard was elected the first President of the society, and the following list of council and officers was adopted:—Council: Messrs. J. F. Latrobe Bateman, Wm. Morris Beaufort, A. Giraud Browning (hon. sec. French Protestant Hospital), Major Charles J. Burgess, S. Wayland Kershaw, F.S.A., Francis P. Labilliere, Lieut. General Fredk. P. Layard, and W. J. C. Moens, Professor Henry L. Morley (University College), the Very Rev. the Dean of Peterborough (Dr. Perowne); Messrs. Reginald Lane Poole and Edward Ernest Stride. Treasurer: Mr. Reginald St. Aubyn Roumieu. Honorary Secretary: the Rev. John de Soyres.

Saturday, May 16, 1885.

NOTES.

SIR WATKIN W. WYNN AT SCHOOL IN DERBYSHIRE.

[3,875.] In the obituary notice of Sir Watkin W. Wynn, published by a local contemporary, among some particulars of Sir Watkin's early career and family affinities of an incongruous nature, there is a single sentence which accurately sets forth that after leaving Westminster School he was placed with a private tutor in Derbyshire. This portion of his educational or training period has been brought under the notice of a friend who well remembers the traditions of the time, somewhere about 1835, when the embryonic Prince of Wales was living with the incumbent of the parish of Parwich—locally pronounced Porridge—which at that time had about 500 of a population, and the living was valued at a little more than a hundred per annum. It is about six miles north-east of Ashbourne, and is now, as it was even more so fifty years ago, a quiet and secluded village, "far from the madding crowd." Here, then, it appears, at Parwich Hall the parsonage were stationed young Wynn and another youth, Cotton, presumably a son of Wynn's father's friend, Lord Combermere, afterwards Field-Marshal, and as an octogenarian well known at Buxton. These young "students" seem to have imparted much interest into the dull round of village life, and they made the best of their penal settlement by helping on the frolics and sports of the neighbourhood. At wakes time they gave liberal largess to the assembled youngsters who scrambled for the coins these expatriated youngsters seemed to be well supplied with. At other times they got up games of different sorts; but they especially delighted in sack-races, and often succeeded in persuading old men—the village Crispin, to wit—to join the ludicrous contest. They have been seen in a field of turnips pelting one another, and the reverend dominie on the road side over the hedge was now and then favoured with a stray shot. But their body-servant, one Keeling, was their best butt and constant resource in their "hours of idleness." They used, failing other freaks, to get this man's hat or jacket and fix the chosen article as a target, shooting at it until it was a mass of ribbons, when the compliant Keeling, of

course, was replenished with a new garment. And so on, infinitum, until they were prepared (?) for the University, and, in the case of young Wynn, for the baronetcy and its high honours and princely prerogatives. The name of the tutor clergyman is not stated; but possibly some of your readers may be able to supply it, with further particulars of this episodal period in the life of a notable—almost historical—character.

LLANUHC.

THE INSCRIPTION ON THE TOWER OF DIDSBURY
PARISH CHURCH.

[3,876.] The inscription on the tower of Didsbury Parish Church, as far as it still remains, has never yet been put into print correctly, and I would like to make one more attempt, though hardly expecting to see the seventeenth century characters reproduced. It is placed on the north side, midway up the face of the tower, and under the string course moulding which marks the division of the church portion from the belfry, and is cut in low relief, taking the following form:—

1	2	3	4
SrE M:K:FOVN	EM: Esq: Sr GB: K	† * †	ERECTED 16
AM WID: DERS	PATRON: BARONET	† †	ANO DMI 20

Nos. 1 and 2 remain perfect; 3 is almost effaced; and of No. 4 1620 and one or two letters alone remain. In No. 3, the four symbols in the corners, here represented by † are designed to represent anchors, and the figure in the middle (*) is a rose.

The initials, Sr. E. M. K., are those of Sir Edward Mosley, Knight, of Hough End Hall, third son of the Sir Nicholas to whose memory the monument inside the Church was erected. He was Attorney-general of the Duchy of Lancaster and first owner of Rolleston, where he resided and died. Those underneath are of Ann, the second wife of his elder and deceased brother Rowland, and who resided at the mansion at Hough End. This lady was one of the Suttons of Sutton, an old Cheshire family. These two are called Founders, and no doubt originated the project of elevating the chapel into the position and appearance of a Parish Church. Thus the first tablet is clear.

The second one has E. M., Esq., Patron, and it will refer to Edward, the son of Oswald Mosley of Ancoats, who was afterwards knighted. He was an infant at the time, but when grown up was one of the leading men of Manchester, and the father of Lady Ann Bland.

The patronage was vested in this branch of the family until they parted with it to the Broomes in 1775.

These three individuals represent the Hough-End, Hulme, Ancoats, and Staffordshire branches of the Mosley family.

The next set of letters are Sr G. B. K. Baronet, and here we find a difficulty, and are obliged to pass into conjecture, and seek for connections likely and actual to whom we can appropriate them. Thus Oswald Mosley, of Ancoats, who died in 1630, had a daughter married to a gentleman of the name of Booth, whose son became Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and Sir Robert Booth, Knt., but it could not be either of them, their names being Humphrey and Robert. Nor could it be a Bland, as some have supposed, for there was no connection with them till sixty years after, and their family Christian names were besides John, either Francis or Thomas.

They cannot be given to a Birch of Birch, nor a Bamford of the Holt (Whalley Range) though both families owned lands in the Chapelry, for neither of them ever had a title.

The only titled family resident within the Chapelry, at the time, whose surname began with B, were the Barlows, and as they had worshipped in past days at Didsbury, occasionally conformed, baptized, and buried there; after the Reformation, it seems as if that family ought to have the credit, especially as they had a George baptized at Didsbury in 1582, and known to be alive thirty-five years after, but the Barlows of Lancashire never had a Baronet among them, and those knighted were Alexanders. It cannot therefore mean a Barlow. It could not mean one of the Gerards of Bryn, owner of the Manor of Heaton Norris, then included in the Chapelry, for this branch of that family had passed at the time of the Tower's erection into the baronage as Lord Gerard of Bromley. My own opinion is that they belong to Sir George Booth, of Dunham Massey. He was knighted 1595, made a baronet 1611, High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1597 and 1622, and of Lancashire 1623. His second wife was a daughter of the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and as high-sheriff of the two counties with a Mosley also Attorney-General for the Duchy, and both in high favour with the Crown, they would be, and undoubtedly were, friends and helpers in each other's schemes, and Sir George was perhaps guardian of the

juvenile Edward the Patron, as Queen Elizabeth had been of himself. By his marriage with the daughter and heiress of Carrington of Carrington, although married as children, he inherited lands which would have adjacent to them some of the Mosley property in Cheshire, at Sale within Northenden parish; and we know from Bishop Gastrell that the Dunham Massey Booths claimed the great titles of Northenden by some right appertaining to Bowdon.

Following this portion is an attempt at an ornament, composed of a centre boss, and four corner figures alike. These have been described and portrayed as a star with numerous rays for the central one, and the four corner ones as the sign used for "and," "&." A careful study I think shows them to be an attempt at a cross saltire and composed of a boss for the centre of a double cinquefoil, or a flower of ten leaves, and for the arms of the cross a figure sometimes termed an heraldic anchor, or if not that, then a version of the chief "bearing" of the Mosley escutcheon, a mill pick; while the flower also is found on one of the Booth shields; indeed on that one which belongs to the Booths of Dunham it is on a bendlet their only cognizance. The next portion of the inscription is almost worn away, but I have no doubt when existing was **ERECTED ANO DNI 1620.**

This is all I am able to contribute. Perhaps it may help a little towards an explanation, and if so I shall be pleased.

A few words about the location of the inscription. I don't think the slabs or blocks containing them were always on the north side, but were placed there subsequently to 1620; and if I am asked to suggest a time when it was done, I should say about 1706, when the first peal of bells was obtained from Manchester; or 1727 when the present full peal was procured and set up in the Tower; for I have no doubt that about this time that ugly window whose point nearly reached the string course, and whose sill came down low enough to allow you to see inside the Church (now replaced by the west door and window) was put into the western side of the Tower to light both the baptistry on the floor, and the ringing chamber above, necessitating the removal of the inscription which I further suppose was placed not in one long line, but one portion above another to ornament the wall space over a small western door, which admitted into the then small church.

The stone used for the inscription is of a softer

kind than the rest of the Tower, and it seems a pity that it cannot be restored where the letters have crumbled away, so that it may go down to posterity to interest them. The decay must have existed some time, and the fear of the date going no doubt led to the cutting of A.D. 1620 high up on the eastern side on some occasion when the fabric was in the hands of the churchwarden-renovator—say at the commencement of this century, when there was a good deal of patching done to the fabric, to make it hold together and become as unlike what it once was as it was possible to make it, and the ugliest ecclesiastical edifice for many miles round.

JOHN BAIRD,

Didsbury.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

FLAT-IRON MARKET.

(Note No. 3,871, May 9.)

[3,877.] Permit me to correct an error which crept into my note of Saturday last. Smoothing-iron corner was formed by the junction of Stretford new Road and Chester Road, not of City and Chester Roads. The portion of City Road then in existence was called Worcester-street, Pooley's Park lying at the Chester Road end, between that road and the barracks. The present Princess-street runs through the centre of the park site.

F. LEARY.

REGENT ROAD BRIDGE.

(Query No. 3,873, May 9.)

[3,878.] This inquiry has already been partially answered in the *City News Notes and Queries*, in the issue for August 18, 1883, where "G. H. H." states that the Regent Road bridge was opened free to the public on the first of June, 1855. No doubt a reference to the newspapers of that date will give the further particulars required by the querist. ION.

* * *

Baines's *Lancashire*, vol. ii., 1825, gives the date of the erection of Regent Road bridge as 1806. It may perhaps be worth noting that in the same year, 1806, Broughton bridge was built by Mr. Samuel Clowes.

FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

Cheetham Hill.

THE COCK TAVERN.—The Bank of England has purchased for £30,050 the important site of the Cock Tavern (occupied by Messrs. Spliers and Pond) and the vacant land in Fleet-street between Chancery Lane and the Law Courts, for the erection of new buildings for the accommodation of the large business in connection with the High Courts of Justice.

QUERIES.

[3,879.] TOMMY ATKINS.—What is the origin of this term as used in reference to the private soldier?
N.

[3,880.] THE PLANTAGENETS.—What has become of the descendants of the Plantagenets, and where and under what name are they living?

WILLIAM HOOLE.

Lostock Gralam.

[3,881.] THE BURY HUNT.—I have a large mezzotint engraving of the Bury Hunt, published by Joseph Zanetti, Manchester, January, 1840. It is from a painting by C. Agar, the animals by J. Maiden, and engraved by J. Bromley. I should be glad if any of your readers could name the members represented.

S. W. W.

[3,882.] MESSAGE.—The following advertisement appears in last Saturday's *Times*:—

MESSAGE NURSE WANTED, for a lady in the country. Must have first-class testimonials and be willing to make herself useful.—Address, stating terms for a month, Mrs.——, St. Albans.

What is the meaning of the word "massage?" It is not a dictionary word.

J. R.

[3,883.] LIVES OF ECCENTRICS.—Can any of your readers tell me the name of the book and price containing sketches of the lives of eccentrics, such as John Elwes and Daniel Dancer, the misers; George Romondo, the mimic; Peggy Jones, the London mud-lark; and others; and where the same can be bought? I believe the book is dated 1804.

NEVILLE.

[3,884.] THOMAS MILLER, POET AND PROSE WRITER.—Can any reader supply a bibliography of this delightful author? It is a matter of regret that his works are mostly out of print. I have tried hard to secure his poems and other volumes, but have not yet succeeded. Although he was the author of a number of charming books, amongst which I may mention *A Day in the Woods*, *Beauties of the Country*, and *Royston Gower*, it is extremely difficult to meet with any of them. I should be glad to learn the name of his present publisher, if such there be, and the works so published. Surely a re-issue would be a profitable undertaking. Miller was the means of rescuing from comparative oblivion the works of William Browne, the charming pastoral poet; some one, it is to be hoped, will be found to render a similar duty to him.

JAMES M. SUTHERLAND.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

Saturday May 23, 1885.

NOTES.

NORMAN REMAINS IN LANCASHIRE.

[3,885.] On a recent visit to the Parish Church of Prestwich I noticed a pile of old carved stones lying against the south side of the tower. One stone appeared to be a portion of a capital of the cushion type; other were what is termed the prismatic billett. They have also several rude heads on, one not unlike the cat's head. Would our antiquarian friend Mr. Langton employ his pencil for a permanent record of these remains ere they get transferred to some garden rockery?

J. OWEN.

AN OLD MANCHESTER DEED: MILLGATE.

[3,886.] Of a paper indenture (much the worse for wear by long use), dated 1st February, 1699, I record the following details of interest. The parties to the deed are "William Newton, of Little Hillton, in the County of Lancaster, Yeoman, upon the first part; Peter Heywood, of Manchester, . . . Chapman, on the second parte; and Charles Clarke, of Reditch, in the said County, . . . Yeoman, upon the third parte." The deed recites (1) that the said Peter Heywood, and the said William Newton, as his surety, gave (in the preceding December) a bond in favour of Charles Clarke, then late of Trafford (Lancashire), Yeoman, for the payment of £38. 14s. 0d., and interest; (2) that Heywood, on the following day, leased to his surety, at a pepper corn rent, for 21 years, if he (Heywood) should so long live, "All the Messuages, lands, tenem'ts, and Hereditaments, . . . Scituate . . . in Manchester, . . . in or near a certaine street, called the Millgate, late the Inheritance of Edmund Heywood, deceased, late ffather of the said Peter Heywood, and then or late in the . . . occupation of the said Peter Heywood, and one Arthur Smethurst and Hannah his wife, mother of the said Peter Heywood"; (3) that the amount secured by the bond, together with "charges of suit," remained owing, and was then due to "the said Charles Clarke"; and records that by the deed in question Newton, with the consent of Heywood, assigned to Clarke the remainder of Newton's term in the property before described. It does not appear whether or not the "Charles Clarke of Reditch" and the "Charles Clarke late of Trafford" are the same person.

The device, impressed on each of the two seals appearing on the deed, is L.B.—containing, no doubt, the initials of the solicitor responsible for the framing of the deed; the witnesses being John Byron and John Banks, the handwriting of each of whom is exceptionally fine.

The quaint though elegant government tax stamp, impressed on the paper, calls to one's mind the Act, then but recently passed, imposing stamp duties upon vellum, parchment and paper used in legal and other transactions—a system of taxation (originating in Holland), the adoption of which, by England and other States, led Adam Smith to make, in his *Wealth of Nations*, the famous comment, “there is no art which one government sooner learns of another than that of draining money from the pockets of the people.”

The “Millgate” referred to would, no doubt, be the street better known as “Long Millgate,” and not that called “Old Millgate.”

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THOMAS MILLER.

(Query No. 3,884, May 16.)

[3,887.] It is rather surprising that Mr. James M. Sutherland, who has himself written a volume of poems, should not be aware of the chief facts in Miller's life. It is quite true that the life of the gifted basket-maker has yet to be written; and when written, if well written, will be a welcome addition to the literature of labour. Miller was born at Gainsborough, August 31, 1808. He lost his father when very young, and was reared by his mother amid the surroundings of poverty. His education only enabled him to write indifferently and to read the New Testament. His first employment was as a farmer's boy, when he no doubt contracted that love of nature which accompanied him through life and made him a poet. He was early apprenticed to a basket-maker, which business, when he grew up, he thought would enable him to keep a wife and any accruing family. Basket-making, however, only enabled him to obtain a bare subsistence for himself and an increasing family. Probably the unfruitfulness of the basket-making induced him to enter upon a publishing speculation, his first literary venture being entitled *A Day in the Woods*, a series of poems, tales, and sketches. Notwithstanding that it was a remark-

able production, owing to the want of patronage, little or no benefit resulted. Thinking that the cause of his failure was his residence in the country he determined to go to London, the paradise of young authors. He left his family behind, and journeyed alone to the great city, alighting from the coach in the Strand with only seven shillings and sixpence in his pocket!

His expectations of making a name and profit from his literary labours were speedily nipped in the bud. A stranger in London, without means, and minus a helping hand, has little chance of “getting on” in any business, whatever his talents or abilities may be. Miller could make baskets, however, which enabled him to keep body and soul together. He varied this occupation by the occasional composition of small sketches and poems, which he sent to various periodicals. One day, when bending over his baskets, he was surprised by a visit from Mr. W. H. Harrison, editor of the *Friendship's Offering*, who had fortunately read one of Miller's poems, and had become impressed with the ability and original talent of the author. The result of the interview was a request that the basket-maker would write a poem for the *Offering*. Miller at the time was so poor that he had neither paper, pens, nor ink, nor the means to buy these needful materials for his poem. He tided over the difficulty by using the whitey-brown paper in which his sugar had been wrapped, and mixed some soot with water for his ink; the back of a bellows serving him for a desk, upon which he wrote his charming poem on an “Old Fountain.” His letter to the editor of the *Offering* was sealed with some moistened bread. The poem was accepted and two guineas immediately returned. It is simply impossible to imagine the rapture which would fill the breast of the poor poet on receipt of so great a sum. Referring to this period of his history, he said:—“I never had been so rich in my life before; and I fancied some one would hear of my fortune and try to rob me of it; so, at night, I barred the door and went to bed, but did not sleep all night, from delight and fear.” After that success many a literary aspirant would have contemptuously looked upon any plebeian employment with disdain. Not so in Miller's case. He continued his basket-making, notwithstanding that his poems introduced him to several literary celebrities. Lady Blessington, among others, sent for him, and became his friend, recommending his book, and in other ways doing him substantial service; but the basket-making still

went on. Upon one occasion Miller said "Often have I been sitting in Lady Blessington's splendid drawing-room in the morning, and talking and laughing as familiarly as in the old house at home; and on the same evening, I might have been seen on Westminster Bridge, between an apple-vendor and a baked-potato merchant, vending my baskets."

He was probably induced to devote himself entirely to literature by an offer he received from Colburn to write a three volume novel, which, when published, was very successful. This success led to other commissions in the same direction. His first novels in three volumes were *Royston Gower*, *Fair Rosamond*, and *Lady Jane Gray*. Subsequently he wrote *Gideon Giles*, *Godfrey Malvern*, *Langley-on-the-Lea*, *Fred Houldsworth*, and *Picturesque Sketches of London*. The last two appeared in the *Illustrated London News*. Most if not all these works have been republished in a cheap form by Routledge and Sons, London. Altogether Miller has written about forty works of poetry, history, biography, novels, country scenery, and tales. In concluding an introduction to one of his works, Miller wrote:—"Humble although my object may be, I have ever written with a view to implant a deeper love of nature in the bosoms of my readers; and if fame has hitherto been my chief reward, the labour has, in most cases, been one that I loved."

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

* * *

A complete alphabetical list of Miller's works, with dates of publication, may be found in Dr. Brewer's *Authors and Their Works*, Chatto and Windus, 1884. The following firms have published editions of Miller's works at various times:—Routledge, Groombridge, Low, Lea, Dean, Griffin, and Tegg. His first volume of poetry, *The Song of the Sea Nymphs*, was published in 1857. In 1881 the *Boys' Own Country Book* was re-issued by Routledge, also the *Tales of Old England* by Chambers. I am not aware of any other recent editions of Miller's works. Whoever will take the trouble to seek out and read one of them will be amply rewarded, and having read one I feel convinced they will long to read more.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library, Manchester.

* * *

A complete bibliography of this most charming and interesting author would be a somewhat formidable affair, he having been a prolific writer. Thomas

Miller's career, as is well known to those who have even merely strayed upon the bye-paths of English literature, was a chequered and unfortunate one. Not long after his death I heard one who knew him well and admired him, a fellow-lover with him of the land of Robin Hood—the late Dr. Spencer Hall—say of him that "flattery and fine company had been Miller's ruin, just as it had been that of Burns, another ploughboy genius." Be this as it may, after having been a protege of Lady Blessington's, and patronized, or intimate with such as Rogers, the Banker poet; Leigh Hunt, Thackeray, Douglas Jerrold, Disraeli, and others, he died 25th October, 1874, in a small house in West-street, Kensington, leaving children totally unprovided for. As Burns said:—

Such is the fate of simple bard
On life's rough ocean luckless starr'd,
Unskilful he to note the card
Of prudent lore,
Till billows rage, and gales blow hard
And overwhelm him o'er!

It is said that Thomas Miller was first introduced to public notice at Nottingham by Mr. Thomas Bailey, the father of a still-living poet, James Philip Bailey, whose *Festus* was first printed in Manchester (1839).

All who are acquainted with Thomas Miller's works will agree that it is a pity, and even a shame, if his books have been allowed to run out of print. I think, however, many of his best (the early ones) are still to be obtained. A reference to the *London Catalogue* will show this, and also the various publishers. Routledges, I think, published several, and have reprinted others. I know that his novels, *Gideon Giles the Roper* and others are by no means difficult to obtain, even second-hand; and most of his works are, of course, in the Free Library.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

I beg to furnish your Isle of Man correspondent with an alphabetical list of the published writings of my acquaintance, Thomas Miller, the Nottingham basket-maker poet, with the dates of publication of the various editions. I shall be pleased if this rough list is augmented. *Beauties of the Country*, 1837. *Birds, Bees, and Blossoms* (previously issued as *Original Poems for my Children*, I believe, *q. v.*), 1867, 1869. *British Wolf Hunter*, 1859. *Boy's Own Library*, six vols., 1856. *Boy's Autumn Book*, 1847. *Boy's Own Country Book, Seasons, and Rural*

Rides, 1867, 1868. Boy's Spring Book, 1847. Boy's Summer Book, 1847. Boy's Winter Book, 1847 [subsequently issued as Boy's Own Country Book (*ante*)]. Child's Country Book, 1867. Child's Country Story Book, 1870, 1881. Common Wayside Flowers, 1841, 1873. Country Year Book, two vols. 1847, one vol. 1856. Day in the Woods, 1836. Dorothy Dove-dale's Trials, two vols. 1864. English Country Life, 1858, 1859, 1864. Fair Rosamond, three vols. 1839, one vol. 1862. Fortune and Fortitude, 1848. Fred and the Gorillas, 1869. Fred Holdsworth. Gideon Giles, the Roper, 1840, 1841, 1859, 1867. Godfrey Malvern, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1847, 1858, 1877. Goody Platts and her Two Cats, 1864. History of the Anglo-Saxons, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1856. Jack of all Trades, 1867. Lady Jane Gray, a romance, three vols. 1840, one vol. 1861, 1864. Langley-on-the-Lea, or Love and Duty, 1858. Life and Adventures of a Dog, 1856. Life and Remarkable Adventures of a Dog, 1870. Little Blue Hood, 1863. My Father's Garden, 1866. No Man's Land, 1863. Original Poems for My Children, 1850 (see also Birds, &c., *ante*). Our Old Town (Gainsborough), 1857, 1858. Old Park Road, 1870, 1876. Picturesque Sketches of London, 1852. Pictures of Country Life, 1846, 1847, 1853. Poacher, and other Sketches of Country Life, 1858. Poems, 1841, 1848, 1856. Poetical Language of Flowers, 1847, 1853, 1856, 1869, 1872. Royston Gower, three vols., 1838; one vol., 1858, 1860, 1874. Rural Sketches, 1839, 1860. Songs for British Riflemen, 1860. Songs of the Sea Nymphs, 1857. Songs of the Seasons, 1865. Sports and Pastimes of Merry England, 1859. Summer Morning, 1844. Tale of Old England, 1849, 1881. Village Queen, 1851, 1852. Watch the End. 1869, 1871. Young Angler, 1862.

J. POTTER BRISCOM.

Nottingham Free Public Library.

LIVES OF ECCENTRICS.

(Query No. 3,883, May 16.)

[3,888.] NEVILLE will find the information he requires in a work entitled, *The Book of Wonderful Characters, Memoirs and Anecdotes of Remarkable and Eccentric Persons in All Ages and Countries*, chiefly from the text of Henry Wilson and James Caulfield. This edition was published in 1869 by John Camden Hotten, price 7s. 6d. The work is illustrated by upwards of sixty engravings, among which are portraits of Dancer and Elwes. I believe

it is not difficult to obtain a copy of this particular edition. The original edition was published in 1821, and was entitled, *Wonderful Characters, comprising Memoirs and Anecdotes of the Most Remarkable Persons of Every Age and Nation*, London, Robins and Co., octavo, three volumes, fifty plates, 37s. 6d. It was again reprinted in 1826, with the same number of volumes and plates. CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library, Manchester.

THE INSCRIPTION ON THE TOWER OF DIDSBURY PARISH CHURCH.

(Note No. 3,876, May 16.)

[3,889.] I should think there can be but little doubt that the initials, Sr. G. B. K. BARONET, stand for Sir George Booth, Knight and Baronet, but will Mr. BAIRD kindly explain what he means by the statement, "The flower [*i.e.*, the double cinquefoil or a flower of ten leaves] also is found on one of the Booth shields; indeed on that one which belongs to the Booths of Dunham it is on a bendlet, their only cognizance." Surely there is some mistake here, as the arms of the Booths of Dunham Massey are quite different from anything approaching the above description.

Without having seen the third panel of the Didsbury inscription closely enough to speak positively on the subject, is it not possible, as it certainly is most probable, that this panel bore the Mosley arms, a chevron between three pickaxes, with a rose in the highest point of the chevron as a distinction for a younger son, and that the shield is now so much worn as to be almost illegible? It is almost certain that the Mosley arms would be placed somewhere in connection with the inscription, and this is the only vacant panel. X.

MESSAGE.

(Query No. 3,882, May 16.)

[3,890.] This is probably the French "massage," shampooing. A massage-nurse, therefore, may be one skilled in hairdressing. E. D. M.

* * *

Your correspondent "J. R.," who says "Massage" is not a dictionary word, will doubtless see the necessity of modifying his opinion if he will only turn to a French dictionary instead of an English one. He will there find that the advertiser, to whose announcement he has given gratuitously the additional publicity of your columns, merely wanted a shampooing nurse. M. D.

Brunswick-street, Manchester.

* * *

Massage is a term used in America for a system of treatment of diseases as used in the Swedish movement cure. It means manipulating the muscles of the body by the palms of the hands, used for people with sluggish liver and constipated bowels or congested blood. Nurses in America can earn or demand one dollar and a half to three dollars an hour for such treatment. I learned the above method from an excellent physician in Wilmington, Delaware, U.S., and followed the practice while in America.

W. H. ASHWORTH.

Manchester.

THE PLANTAGENETS.

(Query No. 3,880, May 16.)

[3,891.] The late Mr. Shirley was in the habit of saying that the descendants of the Plantagenets must now be looked for among the humbler classes of Englishmen named Plant; and the *Times*, in reviewing a book on genealogy some time ago, said that a turnpike collector of that name in Buckinghamshire had derived in lineal descent from the royal family in the Plantagenet lines. Some hundred and fifty years ago there was a William Plant living at Winsford, in this county (Cheshire), who also claimed a royal ancestry. In 1829 his grandson, Uriah Plant, published a curious volume of "the principal events" in his own life; a book rarely met with in these days, for it was of no public interest, although noticeable as having been printed at Middlewich.

The following extract from Burke's *Vicissitudes of Families* may be read with interest:—

What race in Europe surpassed in royal position, personal achievement, or romantic adventure, our Plantagenets—equally wise as valiant, no less renowned in the Cabinet than in the field? Yet as late as 1637 the great-grandson of Margaret Plantagenet, herself a daughter and heir of George, Duke of Clarence, was following the cobbler craft at Newport, in Shropshire. Among the lineal descendants of Edmund Woodstock, Earl of Kent, son of Edward I., entitled to quarter the royal arms, occur a butcher and a toll-collector, the first a Mr. Joseph Smart, of Halesowen, Salop, and the latter Mr. G. Wymot, keeper of the turnpike gates, Cooper's Bank, Dudley. Among the descendants of Thomas Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester, son of Edward III., we find Mr. Penny, late sexton of St. George's, Hanover Square—a strange descent from sword and sceptre to spade and pick.

Turning to history we learn that Edward III., by his wife Philippa, had issue six sons and five daughters. The fourth son was John of Gaunt. He

was married three times. Through his fifth son and first by his third wife the present Viscount Falkland derives from the Plantagenets. The present Lord Howth also derives through the same, Sir Robert the fifteenth Baron Howth marrying Joane, great granddaughter of John of Gaunt. Another great granddaughter, sister of the above Joane, married Sir William Paston, through whom Lord Lyttelton and Sir J. D. Astley derive. Again, Sir George Manners, who died in 1513, and who is the ancestor of the present Duke of Rutland, married Anne St. Leger, niece of Richard III. and great-great-granddaughter of Edmund of Langley, the fifth son of Edward III. and brother of John of Gaunt. The Duke of Norfolk, and the various houses of Howard, the Earls of Berkeley, Lords Mowbray and Petre, all derive from the Plantagenets in the female line, through the descendants of Henry III. and Edward I.

Edward, Earl of Warwick, and only son of the above-named George, Duke of Clarence, was the last male heir of the Plantagenet line, and, as we know, he was imprisoned in 1483, shortly after the death of Edward IV., in Sheriff Hutton Castle, Yorkshire, and after the battle on Bosworth Field (1485) he was sent to the Tower, being then about fifteen years old. Here he was kept a prisoner for fourteen years, finally being executed on Tower Hill, November 28, 1499, and with him ended his line, 345 years after it had come to the English throne.

CESTRIAN.

Stockport.

* * *

When a child, visiting at Stanton-by-Dale, a village in Derbyshire, I heard of a poor labourer living in that neighbourhood whose name was Richard Plantagenet. It was said that his forefathers of the same name had lived there for generations. S.

QUERIES.

[3,892.] SILVER CRADLE.—Is the presentation of a silver cradle to a mayor an ancient or a modern custom? From whom did it originate?

FRANZISKA.

[3,893.] STRUCTURE NEAR THE CATHEDRAL.—I should be glad of information concerning the peculiar brick and stone structure in Victoria-street, City, close to the Cathedral steps, which appears to have been built as the base of a column, and, I should think, many years back. E. B. ROBERTS.

[3,894.] TROPICAL FERNS IN A WEAVING SHED. Can any of your readers give the name of the village

in Lancashire that is connected with the following remarkable story? An old weaving shed that had been closed for several years was at last to be opened again, when, to the astonishment of the invaders, the floor of the shed was found covered with various kinds of beautiful tropical ferns, seeds of which, it was supposed, had come with the cotton from foreign lands. What a strange picture; lovely gems of the woods hiding their feathery palms amid old rusty looms!

JOHN FAIRCLOUGH.

Castleton, near Manchester.

[3,895.] **THE RIDER FAMILY.**—Can any of your readers give me information as to the family of John Rider, of Manchester? John Rider, merchant, married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Chadwick, and widow of Joseph Jolley, all of Manchester, and had an only daughter and heiress, Mary, who married at the Parish Church, Manchester, in 1760, Thomas Philips, of Sedgely, and was mother of the first Sir George Philips. I believe the family of Rider existed for some generations in Manchester, and in Burke's *General Armory* the arms, azure chevron between three crescents argent, are entered as Rider of Manchester. These arms were granted to Rider of Yorkshire, and the pedigree in Heralds' College does not show any Manchester branch. Can any of your readers supply the connecting links? M.P.

[3,896.] **EBENEZER ELLIOTT.**—On the death of Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn-Law Rhymers, some verses appeared in various newspapers, the first of which was to the following effect:—

Hands off! thou tithe-fat plunderer; play
No trick of priestcraft here.
Back! puny lordling; dar'st thou lay
A hand on Elliott's bier?
Alive, your rank and pomp as dust
Beneath his feet he trod;
He knew the locust-swarm that curst
The harvest-fields of God!

I believe the verses appeared first in a Sheffield paper. Can any reader oblige me with the name of the author, or tell me where I can find a copy of the verses?

M. D.

Brunswick-street, C.-on-M.

THE NEW BIBLE: A COINCIDENCE.—It is certainly a remarkable, though we suppose quite an unintentional, coincidence (says the *Jewish Chronicle*) that the day on which the Revised Version of the Old Testament will be published will be the eve of the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, which commemorates, according to tradition, the revelation on Mount Sinai—the first “publication” of the Decalogue in any version.

Saturday May 30, 1885.

NOTES.

NEW WORDS.

[3,897.] The dictionary maker will no doubt record the appearance of the new word “camelry” as a coinage of the ill-starred Soudan campaign of 1884. It has been applied to the force mounted on camels.

The Boston *Literary World* wants a word descriptive of persons devoted to literary pursuits. *Littérateur* is foreign; literary man is awkward, besides being restricted in gender. It proposes “literarian,” analogous to “parliamentarian,” and considers it natural, sensible, euphonious, and convenient.

In finding new words to express new things, let us at least guard the purity of the language. Mr. R. Louis Stevenson, in his new novel *The Dynamiter*, protests, I am pleased to see, against that abominable invention “dynamitard.” “Any writard,” he says, “who writes dynamitard shall find in me a never-resting fightard;” and he goes on to object to such words as lamp-lightard, corn-dealard, apple-filchard (correctly justified by the parallel, pilchard), and opera-dancard. “Dynamitist,” he adds, “I could understand.” After which exposition, most of us, I hope, will agree to abolish “dynamitard.” I imagine, too, that few will cotton to the Boston man’s “literarian.”

ION.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MESSAGE.

(Nos. 3,882 and 3,890.)

[3,898.] To the credit of Webster's Dictionary it may be mentioned that the word *Message* appears in the supplement to the 1880 edition.

ONEZ.

JOHN REILLY.

(Nos. 3,821, 3,828, and 3,838.)

[3,899.] To the very meagre information concerning John Reilly, the author of the *History of Manchester*, given in the above notes, permit me to add that in 1873 he was elected as one of the Roman Catholic members of the Manchester School Board. For about ten years he was a member of the Chetham Society, and after writing the first volume of his *History of Manchester*, he became an underclothing

manufacturer, in Livesey-street, Rochdale Road. He has been dead about two years.
C. J. K.
Moss Side.

TOMMY ATKINS.

(Nos. 3,879, May 16.)

[3,900.] On the inside of the cover of the Company's Ledger in possession of the Pay-Sergeant is a form similar to the page on which each soldier's monthly account is entered, Dr. and Cr. sides filled up and balanced, as an example or instruction page, and it is signed by an imaginary captain and soldier, the signature representing the latter being Thomas Atkins. (This was twenty years ago.) *Punch* was the first, and only paper for many years that applied the term Tommy Atkins to the private soldier; but now all the newspapers and war correspondents use it when inclined to speak humorously of the soldier.

JOHN DAY.

Ardwick.

* * *

I have read many of the controversies that have arisen, principally in the military journals, regarding the above name given to the private soldier, but I have not yet been satisfied as to its origin. The opinion I have formed is that it has been the happy whim of some War Office Clerk, in days gone by, that the soldier should bear this cognomen. The following reasons have led me to form this opinion:—In all the old books of "Records of Service," or "Register Sheets," as they are now called, which are supplied to regiments by the War Office, a specimen page, showing how these documents should be kept, was pasted on the inside of the first cover, and the name "Thomas Atkins" printed at the top of such page. One, the oldest I can remember seeing, had the printer's date of 1794 printed in the lower left-hand corner. In the same manner the specimen "small book," or soldier's "pocket ledger," was issued for the guidance of officers commanding companies, so that an uniform system might be obtained throughout the service, in keeping "Tommy Atkins" well informed as to his financial and social position with his captain and Government. I have seen one of these latter specimens dated 1806. They are now seldom issued, as the conditions of service, pay, and deferred pay vary so much that special instructions are issued to meet the many alterations. I have not before seen these reasons given, but have no doubt as to their correctness.

AN OLD ORDERLY-ROOM CLERK.

EBENEZER ELLIOTT.

(Query No. 3,896, May 23.)

[3,901.] The poem on Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn-Law Rhymmer, and ironfounder of Sheffield, of which "M.D." quotes the first stanza, was written on the occasion of Elliott's death in December, 1849, by John Greenleaf Whittier, the American quaker poet. Elliott was sixty-eight years old when he died. Whittier is still living, and is in his seventy-seventh year. Ebenezer Elliott is somewhat neglected nowadays. He was among the earliest denouncers of the Bread Tax, his *Corn-Law Rhymes* appearing at intervals from 1830 to 1836, before Richard Cobden and John Bright had taken the field in behalf of Free Trade. The misery and the bitterness which inspired Elliott's indignant muse have long since passed away, thanks largely to his efforts and those of his fellow-labourers, and consequently the language of the "suffering which he taught in song" sounds harsh and violent to readers of the present happier generation. Fortunately, however, he had also an observing eye and deep love for the beauties of nature. He became the truest poetic painter of Yorkshire scenery which the broad county has yet produced; and there are still some who respond to his "Poet's Prayer," and

Pleased to read his lays,

Love, for his sake, the scenes where he hath been.

It was fitting that Whittier, the Laureate of the Anti-Slavery agitation in the United States, should sing the requiem of the Laureate of Free Trade. His poem, which first appeared in an American journal in the January or February of 1850, was reprinted in several papers in England, from one of which (not a Sheffield paper) I cut it at the time, and it has lain in my scrap-book all these years. Thence I now draw it for the behoof of your readers. I do not know whether Mr. Whittier has included these fervent and noble verses in the collected edition of his poems, but Englishmen should not willingly suffer the splendid tribute of the American poet to the English singer to pass into oblivion.

Here are the lines:—

Hands off, thou tithe-fat plunderer! play
No trick of priestcraft here;
Back, puny lordling! dar'st thou lay,
A hand on Elliott's bier?
Alive, your rank and pomp, as dust,
Beneath his feet he trod;
He knew the locust swarm that cursed
The harvest fields of God.

On these pale lips the smothered thought,
Which England's millions feel,
A fierce and fearful splendour caught,
As from his forge, the steel.
Strong-armed as Thor! a shower of fire
His smitten anvil flung:
God's curse, earth's wrong, dumb hunger's need—
He gave them all a tongue!

Then let the poor man's horny hands
Bear up the mighty dead,
And labour's swart and stalwart bands,
Behind, as mourners, tread.
Leave cant and craft their baptized bound,
Leave rank its minster floor:
Give England's green and daisied grounds
The poet of her poor!

Lay down upon his sheaf's green verge,
That brave old heart of oak,
With fitting dirge from sounding forge,
And pall of furnace smoke!
Where whirls the stone its dizzy rounds,
And axe and sledge are swung,
And, timing to their stormy sounds,
His stormy lays are sung.

There let the peasant's step be heard,
The grinder chant his rhyme;
Nor patron's praise nor dainty word
Befit the man or time.
No soft lament nor dreamer's sigh
For him whose words were bread—
The Runic rhyme and spell whereby
The foodless poor were fed!

Pile up thy tombs of rank and pride,
Oh, England! as thou wilt;
With pomp to nameless worth denied,
Emblazon titled guilt!
No part nor lot in these we claim,
But o'er the sounding wave,
A common right to Elliott's name,
A freehold in his grave.

ION.

* * *

The lines referred to by "M. D." form the first stanza of a piece called "Elliott," included in the collected edition of Whittier's writings under the heading "Personal and Memorial." C. E. TYRER.
Crumpeall.

STRUCTURE NEAR THE CATHEDRAL.

(Query No. 3,898, May 23.)

[3,902.] The present road leading from the foot of Cateaton-street to the Palatine Buildings, known as Victoria Terrace, or as a portion of Hunt's Bank, was opened in 1833. Previously the Old Church (now the Cathedral) yard extended much lower down towards the river than at present, and abutted on the fronts of some old ricketty houses whose backs overlooked the river, the only road at that time being a footpath across the Church-yard. When the

new road was determined upon as an approach to the then recently-formed Bury New Road, the old houses were pulled down and a strip taken from the Church-yard. A strong river wall was erected and the space between that and the present Church-yard wall built up with arches upon which the roadway rests. These were subsequently known as "Victoria Arches," and let for various manufacturing purposes requiring steam power. I have known them used for callendering and letterpress printing, and the structure referred to by your correspondent is the remains of the chimney erected in 1839 for carrying away the smoke from these works. A few years ago it was struck by lightning, which caused considerable damage to the adjacent properties. It was afterwards taken down to the base as may now be seen.

G. H. S.

Heaton Moor.

* * *

The structure near the Cathedral was formerly a chimney for the use of the tenants under the roadway—Victoria Arches, as they were called. In the afternoon of Saturday, July 29, 1871, the chimney was struck by lightning and dangerously shattered. By instructions from the City Authorities, whose property it is, I took down the column to its present height. It had no lightning conductor to protect it. I have often suggested that it should be used as a pedestal for a monument to some local celebrity.

J. FAULKNER.

Strangeways.

THE RIDER FAMILY.

(Query No. 3,896, May 23.)

[3,903.] I give a few entries from the Cathedral register of the Rider family of Manchester:—

1685. Nov. 3. John Ryder and Sarah Barnes married.

1686. March 17. John, son of John Ryder, of Collyhurst, baptized.

1690. John Chadwick and Anne Ryder married.

1736. Nov. 18. John Ryder and Anne Jolly, by licence.

1760. June 24. Thomas Phillips, hatter, and Mary Ryder, by licence.

In Cross-street Chapel is the following inscription on a flat stone:—

Here were interred Joseph Jolley, who died April 24, 1735, aged 52 years; Mary, his wife, died June 30, 1717, etat 34.

John Rider died January 15, 1739, etat 52

Ann Rider, wife to Joseph Jolly and John Rider, died Dec. 11, 1758, etat 65. Joseph Jolly's children by Ann, his wife, viz.: Thomas, died October 7, 1724; Joseph, Sept. 28, 1727; Ann died June 19, 1728;

Ann died May 30, 1735; Elizabeth died July 24, 1735; William June 14, 1739; William, son of William and Elizabeth Rigby, died April 10, 1797, aged six years and two months.

The first entry of a Ryder in the Cathedral registers occurs in 1573.

J. OWEN.

THE BURY HUNT.

(Query No. 3,881, May 16.)

[3,904.] The Bury Hunt, painted by Charles Agar and J. Maiden, was exhibited at the Manchester Royal Institution in 1841. The following were the persons represented:—Richard Robinson, Bury; George Allanson, Birtles; Edmund Grundy, The Wild; John Grant, Nuttall Hall; Thomas Calrow, Wood Hill; Richard Ashton, Limefield; Samuel Grundy, Silver-street, Bury; Edmund Grundy tertius; John Hutchinson, Bury; Edmund Grundy, Bridge Hall; John Scoles Walker, Woodhill; John Grundy, junior, Redvales; John Grundy, The Wild; Samuel Heywood, Walshaw Hall; Thomas Parker, Bury; and John Woodcock, Bury.

F. LAWRENCE TAVARE.

Cheetham Hill.

* * *

A friend of mine, who died about twelve months ago, had for many years the original picture in his possession. One of the gentlemen represented was Edmund Grundy, of the firm of J. and E. Grundy, Heap Bridge and Manchester; another was Richard Ashton, of Limefield, Bury; a third was William Hutchinson, Bury, of the firm of Hutchinson and Openshaw, Daisyfield Mill; and a fourth was Mr. Grundy, Bury, known as Humpy Grundy.

HENRY DUFFY.

Bradford, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[3,905.] THE BARD OF COLOUR.—What is known of Rose, the "bard of colour," of Salford? A. B.

OFFER OF A CORPS OF INDIAN AMAZONS—A curious and exceptional offer of assistance has been made to the Viceroy of India by the Dowager Maharani of Baroda, in the event of a war with Russia. The Maharani, having taken note of the offers of military assistance made to the Indian Government by the native princes, writes to inform his Excellency that she is prepared to raise and maintain at her own expense a corps of Amazons, who would all be Mahratti ladies. The Mahratti are a warlike people inhabiting the mountainous districts of Central India. They at one time formed a powerful kingdom, and the early history of the East India Company contains many records of feuds and strife between the company and the Mahratti, in which the warlike qualities of the latter were frequently conspicuous.

Saturday, June 6, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SILVER CRADLE.

(Query No. 3,892, May 23.)

[3,906.] I do not know how or when the custom of presenting a silver cradle to a mayoress originated, but it appears to be by no means general in England. Presentations have been made in York, Liverpool, and Warrington, but none appears to have been recorded in connection with the Corporation of the City of London or of that of Winchester, two of the oldest in the kingdom.

A. L. C.

STRUCTURE NEAR THE CATHEDRAL.

(Nos. 3,893 and 3,902.)

[3,907.] I well remember the storm on a Saturday afternoon, about two o'clock, in July, 1871. I was passing down Cateaton-street, and when near Mr. Woodhead's shop, a great mass of fire, to my thinking about the size of half-a-dozen tram cars rolled into one, passed up the centre of the roadway. When I got down to Victoria Terrace I saw that the lightning had struck the chimney at the corner of the Cathedral steps at about half its height, and had ploughed out a quantity of bricks on the side facing the river. This was the damage which made it unsafe, and caused the Corporation to have it taken down.

Your correspondent, "G. H. S.," omits saying that the arches were made after an ineffectual attempt to make a solid roadway. It was first made solid, but owing to the bursting of a water main, a settling took place which forced out the river wall into the river and washed down the building on the opposite side. Fortunately there was no one in the building at the time, as the workpeople had either not arrived or had left for breakfast. The roadway was afterwards made on arches for strength, and the arches let for various purposes, amongst other things as a beer store, and prior to that for a copper store.

J. MARCHANTON.

Moss Side.

THE INSCRIPTION IN THE TOWER OF DIDSBURY PARISH CHURCH.

(Nos. 3,876 and 3,889.)

[3,908.] With reference to the suggestion of "X" that the third panel of the inscription may have been intended for the first quartering of the Mosley Shield, I have to say that the carving is not

too far gone to show that the ornament is a square, with the boss, or star, for the centre, and in each corner a figure answering to a pick-axe, or an anchor, the handle or stem pointing to the centre. There is no trace of a chevron, nor is there room between the figures carved. Nor is it so certain that the Mosley arms would be placed on the erection as "X" seems to imply; such embellishments were generally put on the fronts of their mansions, and their monuments inside the church, the erecting of them often denoting private possession of the structure holding them.

I am afraid I am guilty of carelessness over my reference to the Booths of Dunham. My impression was—and I must apologize to you for not verifying it before committing it to paper—that the Booths of Dunham had a coat emblazoned with a bendlet bearing three stars of many points; and that the one ascribed to them now, a shield with three boars' heads erased, and erect, belonged to the Booths of Barton, but I find I am not correct. There is, however, one of the Booth quarterings which has this star of many points on a bendlet, and I should like someone skilled in heraldry, or in the ownership of the many quarterings claimed by the Earls of Stamford and Warrington, to give its origin and name.

JOHN BAIRD.

Didsbury.

ROBERT ROSE, THE "BARD OF COLOUR."

(Query No. 3,905, May 30.)

[3,909.] Robert Rose was born in Western India, but was long a resident in Salford and Manchester. From some source, when he attained man's estate, he became independent of labour, and was therefore not a poor poet—so unlike many of his brethren of the muse. Although a poet of means and emulous of fame, he never published a volume of poetry, his effusions being confined to the corners of newspapers and the pages of magazines. The most pretentious of his poems—the *Ocean Mystery*—was not finished when he died; had he lived no doubt it would have furnished the first portion of his collected poems. This is the more to be regretted from the fact that Rose was no mere poetaster, as the following sonnet will attest:—

TO A STAR.

To thee, thou splendour of night's ebon scene,
Deep, silent orisons are swiftly pour'd
From pious hearts, all lonely and serene,
As incense pure, ascending to their Lord,

At this dread hour, immers'd in reverie deep,
Holding still converse with thy ray afar,
A wilderness of thoughts which banish sleep,
Distracts the mind, and wings it, glorious star!
Up to the centre of the universe,
To wander there, in space of spheres sublime;
But still think calmly on the quiet hearse,
What hour it slowly moves to church-bell's chime:
Though earth it bears to earth, yet, like thy light,
The soul shall rise resplendent o'er its night.

Rose having a competency, and having no necessity to "drag at the oar," unfortunately dimmed his capability for work by too free and too frequent self-indulgence. With his brother poets, assembled in the well-known "Poets' Corner," he would no doubt be heartily welcomed, and care liberally for the wants of those lovers of the "Pierian spring" upon whom fortune had not shone kindly. Ultimately his mind became affected, not so much by free living as by free drinking. On June 19, 1849, he died in a fit of delirium tremens, in his forty-third year, adding one more instance to the many and continually occurring instances of perverted and destroyed genius through the fascination of drink. Rose was interred at the Harpurhey Cemetery. John Bolton Rogerson, who was then the registrar of the cemetery, read a service of his own composition over his grave. One of the "Bard of Colour's" own verses fittingly forms his epitaph:—

I'd rather have my tomb bedew'd at eve
With the lone orphan's or the good man's tear,
Who softly stole at twilight here to grieve,
And sobb'd aloud—"The friend of man rests here!"
I'd rather have this quiet, humble fame
Than hollow echo of an empty name.

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

QUERIES.

[3,910.] CEGYDOG.—Being in the neighbourhood of Abergele last week I came across a village of the above name. Can any of your Welsh readers give me any information as to the meaning of the above name in English?

CLAUDE ALDRED.

[3,911.] THE NANTWICH BRINE BATHS.—Can any reader give me information regarding the brine baths at Nantwich? I have been advised to try them for rheumatic gout, but no one can tell me anything either of the baths or of the accommodation for visitors.

E. A. S.

[3,912.] FORDYCE AND SWEDENBORG.—Can any reader give particulars of a certain Mr. Fordyce, who is said to have been the writer of an "Inquiry into

the Commission and Doctrine of the New Apostle Emanuel Swedenborg. By a member of the Old Church." (Manchester, 1794.) The author, says Hindmarsh, was "an Independent minister, a Socinian in 1812, and afterwards a Deist." E. C. A. A.

[3,913.] ELEANOR COBHAM, DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.—In going through Peel Castle, Isle of Man, the old man who conducts visitors through the ruins points to the crypt under the cathedral as the prison in which the Duchess of Gloucester was confined fourteen years. Is there any truth in the statement? Can any of your antiquarian readers refer the writer to any authority outside of Shakspeare, in the second part of *Henry VI.*? Is not the whole story—so circumstantially related in the guide-books and in the histories of the Island—pure imagination?

A SCEPTIC.

MANCHESTER THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THE COURT LEET RECORDS OF THE MANOR OF MANCHESTER.
Vol. I. From the year 1552 to 1586. Manchester: Printed for the Council of the City of Manchester.

The manorial rights of Manchester were purchased from Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., in 1846, and with them the Corporation became possessed of seven folio manuscript volumes of the Court Leet Records, containing the earliest written materials concerning the local government of the town, and necessarily throwing considerable light on the customs and manners of the times. Strange to say, notwithstanding the keen curiosity awakened of late years in all matters pertaining to local history, these volumes (with one exception to be hereafter referred to) have been allowed to remain untouched and unused in the muniment room of the Corporation; and but for the intelligent zeal of Alderman Sir Thomas Baker, the present and future generations might have been kept in ignorance of their contents. Thanks, however, to his advocacy during his mayoralty the City Council have decided to transfer these materials of our early history from manuscript into the more enduring type, thus following the example of London, York, Leeds, Liverpool, Bath, Leicester, Nottingham, Yarmouth, and other municipalities. The seven volumes of Court Leet Records begin with the proceedings of the Court held in 1552, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, and contain an unbroken record of the transactions of the courts to the year 1846, with the exception of an interval of forty-five

years, from 1687 to 1731. Of the last-named volume nothing is known, Sir Oswald Mosley never having had it in his possession. It will thus be seen that a period of nearly three hundred years is covered by these old manorial records.

The contents of the present volume are not now made public for the first time, but the records are presented for the first time in a complete form. In 1844 the Chetham Society issued a series of extracts from the records which had been "compiled" by the late John Harland. That the compilation was well done, and that it was accompanied by much valuable and acceptable annotation, is guaranteed by the known industry and learning of its editor. Mr. Harland's prefatory essay was an excellent summary of the fresh material which he was able to present in illustration of the early history of the town, and of the ancient local courts of Manchester; and it must be conceded that his compilation is better fitted for popular reading than the work which has now been issued under the auspices of the Corporation. But for many reasons it is desirable, if not indispensable, that documents of this kind should be printed in full, and be set beyond the chance or risk of loss by means of the press. Mr. J. P. Earwaker, to whom the transcription and editorship of the Records have been entrusted, and who has accomplished his work with that scrupulous fidelity for which the historian of East Cheshire is distinguished, gives us the entire text verbatim, in the spelling of the time, and with all its peculiarities and salient characteristics. This is quite in accordance with the more exacting requirements and demands of scholars, historians, and antiquaries in our time. The popular exposition may come after, but first of all it is necessary that we should have the precise text of the record, so that all who care to do so may verify the accuracy of any subsequent presentation in a more attractive literary garb.

The Court Leet, as Mr. Earwaker points out in his introduction, is one of the oldest courts in the kingdom, being based on the Sheriff's Tourn or Circuit, a court dating from the time of the Saxons, and so-called from the sheriff going on circuit throughout the county he represented. It held the same relative position to the sheriff's turn that the petty sessions now do to the assizes or quarter sessions. The full title of this court was "The Court Leet with View of Frank Pledge of the manor of Manchester." The View of Frank Pledge was an ancient custom by

which every free-born male of the age of fourteen (with certain exceptions) was required to give security that he would be true to his Sovereign and the latter's subjects, and it was required of him that his neighbours should become bound for him to see that he was forthcoming. The Court Baron, which was held at the same time and place as the Court Leet, was a court of a different character. At it all those who held their lands of the lord of the manor had to be present and the jury had to inquire whether any of the tenants had died, and if so to report the names and state who was the next heir, and if any lands within the manor had changed hands the name of the new tenant was to be stated to the court, and he was required to do the "suit and service" due from his lands. When the records began, 4th October, 6th Edward VI., 1552, the Lord of the Manor of Manchester was Sir Thomas West, ninth Baron de la Warre, who was represented at Manchester by his steward, who presided at the Court Leet. The first steward whose name occurs in the records is that of Edward, third Earl of Derby, and he served the office from 1556 till his death in 1572. Curiosity will naturally be aroused to know how it came to pass that an Earl of Derby should serve as steward for a Baron and lord of the manor, but Mr. Earwaker offers no explanation on this point.

The volume will probably be found hard reading by most people. It does not look inviting. But it is full of curious information concerning the comparatively far-off time, and presents a series of quaint pictures—rude and rough perhaps, but yet veracious—of the customs, manners, and ways of life of the inhabitants of the little town three centuries and more ago. Availing ourselves of Mr. Harland's prefatory essay to the Chetham Society compilation, the following passage will indicate a few of the points which are embodied in the earliest volume of the Court Leet Records:—

Nothing scarcely was too large, certainly nothing too small, for presentment to and adjudication by the Court Leet jury. An Earl of Derby presided personally in this court as the steward of the lord of the manor; and a whole regiment of manorial officers were present, from the clerk of the court, the boroughreeve and constables, the catchpoll, the lord's bailiff, the bylawmen, and the market-lookers of fish and flesh and white meats, down to the ale-conners, scavengers, dog-muzzlers, pinder, and swineherd. Amongst the local institutions may be named the waitts, or town minstrels, the fountain and conduit, the booths (apparently sessions and court-house

and market hall); the archery butts, the cockpit, the pound or pinfold, the lord's mill and his bakehouse, the gallows and pillory, the stocks, the whipping-post, tumbrel, brank or bridle for scolds, and the ducking stool and pond for disorderly women. The law as to nuisances gave both jury and manorial officers more employment than any other portion of their duties. Encroachments on the lord's waste (i.e., all his land unbuilt upon and not highway), pig cotes and daubholes on the footpaths and in the carriage ways, filth left before doors and in the gutters, uncleansed "jakes," ashpits, and cesspools—these are but a small portion of the vast accumulation of "noisances" under which groaned and suffered the inhabitants of old Manchester. Then there was the legislation for and about animals. Cows, horses, sheep, pigs, dogs—all required regulation, and had it. Pigs, as the most perverse animals, required the firmest and most rigorous handling, and hundreds of folio pages of jury orders relate to "swine" alone, and their numerous misdeeds and nuisances, their eating corn in the market, and desecrating the churchyard.

There is scarcely a permanent committee of the present Manchester Council (excepting, of course, the parks, the library, and the gas committees) of the functions of which some rude prototype is not presented in these records. Amongst the offences of these old times, some would puzzle, and more amuse, the magistrate or lawyer of the present day. Forestalling, engrossing, regrating, selling before the market bell had rung, &c., may be understood; but one man is charged with slander and being a "reveller," others with "easing" or "eaves-dropping," others again with putting butter or suet in cakes, others with selling horse-bread, others with taking more than 4d. a head at wedding dinners; others with foddering horses in the streets, or washing beasts' entrails at the Conduit, or emptying jakes into the river Irwell, over the parapet of Salford Bridge, or down the adjacent stairs to the river. Single or unmarried woman are prohibited selling ale, and making and selling bread. Amongst unlawful games are cards, dice, loggats, bowls, and giddy-gaddy, or cat's pallet. Swords and other weapons are forbidden to be worn, and none save "worshipful and right worshipful" persons are allowed to wear hats; cap-makers being appointed to go to church to note all delinquents.

The present volume covers the period from 1552 to 1586. It was a stirring time in England. Mary was on the throne during five of the years, and Elizabeth for twenty-eight more; Mary Queen of Scots was enacting her strange and tragic career, the Armada was gathering, Spenser publishing his *Shepherd's Calendar*, and Shakspeare arriving in London. No echo or reflection or mention of any of these great national events have found their way into the chronicles of the then village of Manchester, the taking of the oath of allegiance to the Queen (Elizabeth) in 1579, being the only incident which varies the current of purely local affairs. The Courts do not even appear to have been called upon to put in force the penal statute against Catholics or the

provisions of the first English poor law, both passed in 1642. The Manchester and the Lancashire of the Tudor period were in the isolated position which they held for so long a period, and were wholly unaffected by the events which were so profoundly interesting the country beyond their limits.

Mr. Earwaker, in addition to an excellent introductory essay, has supplied a large number of notes in elucidation of the matters referred to in the text; he gives a list of the uncommon, obsolete, and dialect words; and a full and elaborate index facilitates reference, and will be particularly useful to genealogical inquirers, and to those interested in old place-names and the localities round Manchester. It is expected that the series will extend to ten volumes, and Mr. Earwaker is already far advanced with the second instalment. The volumes are offered to subscribers for the series at one guinea each, and the number printed is not large. We await the subsequent issues in the confident expectation that much new light will be thrown upon the history of the town during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries—original information which, as Mr. Earwaker says, “cannot fail to be of the highest possible value to all who take any interest, however slight, in the past history of Manchester.”

NEW MAP OF LANCASHIRE.—Mr. John Heywood has this week published a large and excellent wall map of the county of Lancaster. For breadth and distinctness it could not be excelled, and yet the minuter points are well and carefully attended to. The boundaries of the hundreds and of the boroughs are defined in colour; the mountains, rivers, canals, main roads, and railways are indicated; and even the route of the proposed Ship Canal is laid down. It is worth noting, too, that the price of this capital map is, considering the size, exceedingly moderate.

EFFECT OF SENSATIONAL LITERATURE ON HEALTH.—Dr. James Weaver, in a lecture recently delivered in Longton, demonstrated that the reading of such literature as comes within the category of “penny dreadfuls” has another pernicious effect in addition to the perversion and degradation of youth. The lecturer asserted that these publications are also responsible for a high death-rate and an increase of disease. His conclusions were based on this hypothesis:—The reading of this “sensational” class of literature produces an unhealthy excitement, and, as a consequence, depression. A continuance of this process must certainly tend to reduce the vitality of the system and pave the way for disease. In concluding his lecture, Dr. Weaver urged that it was the duty of every one to try and eliminate the evil influence of such literature upon the moral and physical health of the rising generation, and in this the lecturer will have the support of all right-minded persons.

Saturday, June 13, 1885.

NOTES.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE COTTON MANUFACTURE: PART II.

[3,914.] In the Notes and Queries for October 20, 1883, a table of dates was given showing the growth of the cotton manufacture and of calico-printing from 1298, when cotton was first used in England for candle-wick, down to the end of last century. The following communication embodies some of the principal incidents from 1801, to the Cotton Famine, in 1861-4:—

1801. First construction of a fire-proof cotton mill—Messrs. Philips and Lee, of Manchester, first applying cast-iron beams to this purpose.
1802. The first Factory Act passed. It was promoted by the first Sir Robert Peel, and limited the labour of apprentices in cotton mills to twelve hours, prohibited night-work after June, 1804, and provided for their instruction and clothing.
1802. Import duties on raw cotton re-imposed, slightly higher than those of 1798.
1803. A power-loom patented by H. Horrocks, of Stockport.
1804. Invention of the dressing machine by Thomas Johnson, of Stockport; it supplied the missing link in power-loom invention, for want of which the looms had failed to achieve any decisive success.
1808. New method of engraving with dies for calico-printing introduced by Mr. Lockett, of Manchester.
1809. Parliament granted Dr. Cartwright £10,000 for his invention of the power-loom.
1810. Turkey red first introduced into calico-printing.
1812. Between four and five million spindles at work in Great Britain.
1813. H. Horrocks, of Stockport, made important improvements in the power-loom, and his machine eventually came into general use. The hand-loom weavers took the alarm, as the spinners had done in 1799, and power-looms were extensively destroyed by mobs.
1815. Eight pounds of cotton twist sent to India on trial.
1815. Robert Owen, of New Lanark Mills, on the Clyde, advocates a ten hours' bill. The Act of 1802 was evaded by the employment of non-apprenticed children. Sir Robert Peel advocated Owen's views in Parliament.
1816. Yarn trade opened with the continent.
1817. Number of spindles in use in the United Kingdom estimated by Mr. John Kennedy at 6,845,000.
1819. Second Factory Act, commonly called Peel's Act, prohibiting the employment of children under nine years of age, and limiting the labour of all young people under sixteen to twelve hours a day.

1821. First regular exportation of twist to India.
 1823. Cotton first imported from Egypt.
 1825. Richard Roberts, of Sharp and Roberts, Manchester, patents his self-acting mule.
 1827. De Jongh's self-acting mule patented.
 1831. Third Factory Act, promoted by Lord Morpeth and Sir John Hobhouse. It shortened the hours of labour in cotton mills of young persons under eighteen, to eleven and a half hours a day, and eight and a half on Saturdays—in all sixty-nine hours a week.
 1832. Duty on printed calicoes repealed. Spindles in the United Kingdom, 9,300,000; power-looms, 203,000. Ninety-six cotton factories at work in Manchester and Salford.
 1833. William Graham, of Glasgow, invented the self-acting temple, which kept the cloth constantly stretched by the action of a pair of clippers. Afterwards superseded by the use of roller temples.
 1834. Fourth Factory Act, originated by Lord Ashley, but carried through by Government. It limited the employment of persons under eighteen to twelve hours in one day, and sixty-nine hours a week; and of children under eleven to nine hours a day, and forty-eight hours a week. Under this Act Inspectors of Factories were appointed for the first time.
 1835. In Lancashire there were 683 cotton factories at work, and in Great Britain and Ireland 1,263, employing in all 100,886 males and 120,283 females.
 1836. J. C. Dyer, of Manchester, invented the card-making machine.
 1845. Duty on cotton repealed.
 1847. The Ten Hours Bill passed.
 1851. Muslin shown at the Great Exhibition, manufactured from yarn of the extraordinarily fine count, 700's, spun by Mr. Thomas Houldsworth, of Manchester and Reddish.
 1858. Mr. Evan Leigh, of Manchester, invented revolving flat cards for carding and loose boss top rollers for spinning.
 1861-4. The Cotton Famine, caused by the Civil War in the United States.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE RYDER FAMILY.

(No. 3,895 and 3,903.)

[3,915.] The registers of the Ryder family are principally at St. John's Church, Deansgate, where several generations of them are buried. The connection of the Ryders with the old Manchester families and industries may be interesting just now.

The last Walker (bleacher), of Walker's Croft, left a widow and only daughter. With them were related the old families of Stanley, Rylands, and Leather. The daughter, Hannah Walker, was married to Richard Ryder. Some of them were brickmakers,

and owned land and houses in Deansgate and Knott Mill. One of them gave the bricks to build St. Paul's Church, lately in Turner-street. Mrs. Ryder married for her second husband a Mr. Woodward, the first calenderer in Manchester; works in High-street, dwelling-house next door. He kept "open house" at Bagaly Hall, Newton Heath, entertaining fifty a day. The first Sir Robert Peel and other well-known calico printers were frequent visitors. Mrs. Woodward's son, John Rider, of Cheetham Hill, who died twenty years ago, was the last of the *name* of that branch of the Ryder family.
 M. W.

ELEANOR COBHAM, DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.

(Query No 3,913, June 6.)

[3,916.] The Duchess of Gloucester was never in the Isle of Man. Shakspeare no doubt founded his scene in Henry VI. upon an old ballad or poem of the poet Middleton, in 1660, entitled, "The Legend of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester." The facts are simply these:—The Duchess committed an absurd crime in connection with one of her retainers—devising the king's death by means of witchery. For this crime she was punished by being compelled to walk through the streets of London with a lighted taper. She was also imprisoned in Lady's Castle, in Kent; then in Chester Castle; and lastly, in Kenilworth Castle; and, on the death of Duke Humphrey, she probably ended her days in a monastery. But one thing is certain, she never put foot on the Isle of Man. All the stories in Shakspeare, Scott, Middleton, and the guide books, are pure inventions, creatures of the imagination, having no foundation in fact.

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

* * *

In my numerous visits to Peel Castle I have often heard the same story concerning the Duchess of Gloucester's imprisonment there as your correspondent SCEPTIC, but have never questioned the authenticity of the facts, which are related in many good authorities. Charles Knight's statement is that she was imprisoned at Calais, and then in the Isle of Man. In the oldest book in my possession respecting the Isle of Man, dated 1794, by David Robertson, a fair account is given of the Duchess, who seems to have been a somewhat difficult person to deal with. The passage is taken from Waldron. I have not Grote's *Antiquities* at hand, but it would be interesting to note if he made any special reference to the matter.

F. J. DARBYSHIRE.

ROBERT ROSE, THE BARD OF COLOUR.

(Nos. 3,905 and 3,909.)

[3,917.] When residing in Manchester in 1838-9, I used to see Robert Rose at the house of Wilmot Henry Jones, St. Stephen's-street, Salford, where also dwelt Philip James Bailey, the author of *Festus*. At this house, also, I first became acquainted with John Bolton Rogerson and his *Rhyme, Romance, and Reverie*—an acquaintance which only terminated with his death. There also came sometimes, on Sundays, Matthew Depere, a scholar and a gentleman; and there, too, I first met and smoked my first pipe with the Rev. Patrick Ross, of the Scottish Church, and heard him preach in Mr. M'Kerrow's pulpit. He had been English tutor to the late Emperor of Russia and his brother. Occasionally would come David Ross, brother of Patrick, of the *Liverpool Chronicle* (Ross and Nightingale), a man who had a more ready and extensive knowledge of English history than anybody I have since known. Robert Rose was a good-looking well-built man, of a mulatto complexion. The conversations were bright, witty, and animated, and often produced some good laughs. I sat and listened, all ears and eyes, but did not observe then the propensity which your correspondent mentioned last week. J. C. BATES.

Nuttall Terrace, Buxton.

QUERIES.

[3,918.] HORNBY CASTLE.—Can any reader give a short account of the great law case, *Tatham v. Wright*, respecting this estate, which came before the courts some sixty years back? The Mr. Wright interested therein married, I believe, a Miss Penny. Can any of your readers further say anything of this lady's family? G. T. W.

OLD MANCHESTER PLAYERS.

The abstract and brief chronicles of the time.

HAMLET.

ST. CATHERINE-STREET, MONTREAL, June 1.

It will perhaps interest some of your readers, who lived in an age when shambling decrepitude was not genius nor pecuniary success, to know that the veteran actor, Mr. William Davidge, who more than forty years ago was a member of the stock company of your Theatre Royal, played here last week at the Academy of Music—the principal theatre in this city. The bright particular star of the dramatic constella-

tion in which he appeared was a young lady—Miss Margaret Mather—who promises to be a rival of the celebrated Mary Anderson. The pieces produced were *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, the *Honeymoon*, the *Hunchback*, the *Lady of Lyons*, and *Leah*, in nearly all of which Mr. Davidge came before the curtain. I had not the pleasure of seeing "this fine old English gentleman," but I learn from a friend who was more fortunate, that he distinguished himself by the finish and painstaking care of his acting, while his get-up, intonation, and accent had the genuine ring of the old school, and was all that Garrick or Munden would have approved. I inclose you two cuttings from the *Montreal Star* of Wednesday last, one giving some particulars of Mr. Davidge's career, and the other a criticism on the performance of *Leah*. Mr. Charles Bass, also a fellow-player with Mr. Davidge when the latter resided in your city, after following his profession in the United States and this Dominion for many years, retired on a moderate competency to a town in Ontario—Peterboro', I think—where he died some eight or ten years ago. I am indebted for this information to a gentleman who knew Mr. Bass well in his latter years, and my informant bore testimony to his reputation as an actor, and worth as a man.

MAPLE LEAF.

[From the *Montreal Star*.]

Mr. William Davidge, who is travelling as comedian with Miss Margaret Mather, must be well and favourably remembered by very many old play-goers of Montreal at a period when theatres were not so numerous in our midst as they are now, when the style of plays was more in accordance with the principles of nature, and the students of the stage won their spurs after a hard and toilsome novitiate, appearing in characters of every phase of oddity and with greater reward for truthfulness of design than have of late distinguished the modern representatives of comedy. As almost everything in fashion and the arts have changed with every decade, it is but natural that the stage and its methods must follow in its wake. At the time of the great fire in 1852 Mr. Davidge came from New York with Corbyn and Buckland, and was the Aminadab Sleek in the *Serious Family* at the new Theatre (now the old Theatre Royal), speaking the first word upon a stage where he was for so many successive seasons one of the most popular members of a company that embraced the names of Humphrey Bland, F. B. Conway, W. Reynolds, George Jordan, A. Andrews, C. Peters, C. Fisher, Mrs. Vernou, Mrs. Buckland, Mrs. Maeder, Lizzie Wether, Mrs. Conover, and

many others whose names cannot now be called to mind. How few of these are left!

For many years Mr. Davidge's professional time was spent in New York, where, until the disbanding of almost all the regular companies to supply their places with combinations, he was popular and prominent. During the summer months, when the New York houses were closed, his appearance in Montreal in the fine old comedies, as well as in the laughable farces of Morton and the kindred writers of these amusing trifles, was always looked forward to. Some can fancy now that they see him as the street minstrel with his old clarionet, and are listening to his laughable and ludicrous singing of Vilikins and his Dinah. Mr. Davidge has been with Miss Mather from the time she made her success in Chicago three seasons since, and before that time was one of the first to predict a career for her, the result of which has more than warranted his belief.

WINFIELD MANOR.—Mr. Wilfred Edmunds, of Chesterfield, has published in pamphlet form (through Remrose and Son, Derby) the historical sketch of Winfield Manor, which he read recently in the grounds of the ruins to the members of the Scarsdale Field Naturalists and Archaeological Society. The old manor house, of which an engraving is given, was one of the many places in which Mary Queen of Scots was confined. Mr. Edmunds incidentally remarks that not a single house remains standing in its entirety which was used by the unfortunate Queen in her captivity.

THE ASHES OF A CÆSAR.—The *Times* publishes a curious and impressive letter from Rome on the discovery of one of the tombs of the Cæsars—that, namely, of Piso Licinianus, whom the Emperor Galba had adopted as his successor, but had adopted without making those rich presents to the Prætorian Guard which that important force always expected on such occasions. Hence there was discontent both with Galba and with Piso; and when Galba was overthrown and beheaded, Otho, who succeeded him, asked for the head of the young Piso, as far more important than the head of the worn-out Galba. Piso was beheaded; but his wife, Verania, obtained by a heavy payment the permission to burn and bury him in fitting state; and it is this tomb, in which the ashes of Piso and of others of his family were contained, which has just been discovered at Rome in the Appian Way, a little outside the Colline Gate. When the funeral-urns were examined immediately after the discovery by the owner of the ground he found them empty; and asked what had become of the ashes. The reply was: "I gathered them together into a basket, and sent them to my wife to make lye for her washing." A more striking illustration cannot be conceived of Shakspeare's thought in *Hamlet*, "Why may not imagination trace the noble dust of Alexander, till he find it stopping a bung-hole?"—

Imperious Cæsar, dead and turned to clay,
Might stop a hole to keep the wind away.

Saturday June 20, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HORNEY CASTLE.

(Query No. 3,918, June 18.)

[3,919.] I had to do with this case on the final trial, when I was a solicitor's clerk in Lancaster. I believe it was tried at Lancaster first, and Wright won the day. Afterwards it was re-tried at Liverpool, when Wright was again successful. Lastly, it was tried at Lancaster, not fifty years ago, and the result was then in favour of Tatham, the case being Admiral Tatham against Wright, in respect of a dispute over the will of one Marsden, late owner of the Hornby Castle estate. Cresswell and Pollock were the barristers employed in the case, both of whom afterwards became judges. I copied many of the briefs and wills for the trial, and had a rough copy of the will in my possession for several years afterwards.

ROBERT RICHMOND.

Chorlton Union Offices.

ELEANOR COBHAM, DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER, AND
PEEL CASTLE.

(No. 3,913 and 3,916.)

[3,920.] Your correspondent A SCEPTIC is right in his supposition that the whole story of the imprisonment of the Duchess of Gloucester in Peel Castle for a period of fourteen years—"so circumstantially related in the (untrustworthy) guide books and in the (so-called) histories of the island"—is pure imagination. I have not time, nor have you space, to allow me to go fully into the matter, but I may give an extract or two, and a few references which, I think, will satisfy A SCEPTIC and some other inquirers. *An English Chronicle of the Reigns of Ric. II., and Henrys IV., V., and VI.*, written before the year 1471 (Camden Society, 1856), records, under "the xix. yeare of King Harri." "In this same year in the moneth of Juylle. . . . Dame Alienore Cobham. . . . Was committed to the warde of of Sir Johan Stiward knyghte, and of Johan Stanley, squier, and other of the kyngis hous, forto be led to the castelle of Ledis. . . . And aftir this she was committed ayen to the warde of Sir Thomas Stanley, wheryune she was al her lif aftir, having yeerli C merc. assigned to her for hir fynding and costs."

At this time (July 22nd to November 18, 1441), there was only one "Thomas Stanley, knight," and there is no further mention of his name with hers

until July, 1446, and during this period she was confined in royal castles only, viz., Chester, Kenilworth, and Ledys in Kent, and moved about at the will of the King and Privy Council. That she was "committed to Sir Thomas Stanley" seems to be a mistake, as there is recorded (25 Oct., 1441) that £40 were paid to "John Stanley, esquier," and others, "for their attendance for the safe custody of her as aforesaid." Another and similar record bears date 31st January, 1442; but there is no evidence that she was in John Stanley's charge "al her lif aftir," he apparently having finally given up his charge of her on January 22nd, 1442, when she seems to have been removed from London to Chester, the nearest point she ever got (so far as appears on the records) to the Isle of Mann.

Although Shakspeare mentions Sir John Stanley as governing the Isle of Mann at that period, he was wrong in so doing, Sir Thomas, his father, being then titular "King." John Stanley was third son of Sir Thomas, and is described as "oure well-beloved squier John Stanley, sergeant of oure armury." The following are other records, in brief, relating to the subject:—

Michaelmas, 20 Henry. Paid to Ralph Lee for "conducting Eleanor Cobham, late Duchess of Gloucester, to the city of Chester," £100.

1443. Oct. 26. Removed to Kenilworth. (*Pat.* 22, H. 6.)

1444. May 15. Paid to Ralph, Lord de Sudeley, at Kenilworth, £33. 6s. 8d., for the custody of Eleanor Cobham, her priest, maid, gentleman attendants. This shows she was in no bad plight, such as the Manx "historians" would make out.

1446. July 24. (*Minute of Council.*) "The Kyng wol that hislettres under his prive seal be directed to Sir Thomas Stanley, to carie and to be caried by land and by water Eleanor Cobham in the isle of Man, and there that he rule her as he hath geve him in commandment."

Whether these letters were ever directed to Sir Thomas does not appear in the evidence, but a year later (1447, July 18) we find that there was paid to Thomas Montgomery, Esq., for attendance at different times, "thirdly upon Eleanor Cobham from Ledys to London," £40. So there is not the slightest evidence that the Duchess was ever imprisoned in the Isle of Mann.

The somewhat similar story of the imprisonment of Thomas, Earl of Warwick, in the same castle is equally wanting in proof. In July, 1397, he was "dampned to perpetual prison in the Yle of Man," but there is no evidence that he was a close prisoner

in any fortress (see Devon's *Issues of the Exchequer*, 1398), but simply confined to the Island with an allowance of about £1,000 per annum.

Amongst other equally unproved statements in Manx guide books and histories I may just mention the figment of Saint Manghold landing bound from a coracle; the re-building of St. German's Cathedral by Bishop Simon and the (recent) finding of his bones; the story of the wreckage of a portion of the Spanish Armada on an invented "Spanish Head;" a long but unknown catalogue of kings and bishops; many so-called legends and traditions of the island, which are no traditions at all but mere modern additions to Manx "history;" and the whole of the statements respecting an imaginary "King Orry," said to have been a Dane, but who Dr. Cummings thinks to have been the same as "our long-lost Arthur." A good Manx guide book and a true Manx history have yet to be published, and in the meantime we can rely upon little beyond what appears in Dr. Oliver's *Monumenta* (3 vols.) published by the Manx Society.

HARBOPDALE.

QUERIES.

[3,921.] "HONOUR BRIGHT."—What is the origin of this phrase?
JAMES WILKINSON.

[3,922.] SONGS IN "AS YOU LIKE IT."—Where can the music of these songs be obtained in a cheap form?
J. MELLOR.

[3,923.] HEYWOOD FAMILY.—Particulars wanted of the settlement of the Heywood family at Longhouse, or Coldhouse, Saddleworth, and also the pedigree.
H. D.

[3,924.] LEAD MINERS' RIGHTS IN DERBYSHIRE.—Is there a law in existence that gives to a miner born in Derbyshire the power of excavating upon any land in Derbyshire where he believes that lead ore might be found, without first receiving permission of the owners?
W. C.

[3,925.] LAWTON FAMILY.—From the *Palatine Note Book* (iv., 168) I find that William, eldest son of John Hardman, "married at Saddleworth, 12th May, 1768, Mary Ann, the only child of Mr. Joshua Lawton, Dobcross, the wealthy heiress commanding a fortune of £30,000, which a century ago was accounted an immense dower." I shall be glad of further information respecting this Joshua Lawton and his family.

HARBOPDALE.

[3,926.] **SADDLEWORTH CHURCH.**—I understand that an old deed is somewhere in existence in which this church is spoken of as "the black chapel at Rough Clough head." I shall be glad of any information respecting this deed, and especially if I can obtain a copy of it. If it does exist it seems to show that the original name of what is now called the Pichill, or Pichill Clough (from "pightel"—a small parcel of land enclosed by a hedge), was the Rough Clough, a name now forgotten. **HARROPDALE.**

[3,927.] **THE SAXON CHRONICLE.**—If any of your readers have an opportunity of seeing the Saxon Chronicle I shall esteem a little information as a favour. I have an extract referring to the building of the "castles" or forts of Warwick, Eadesbyrig, Cyric-byrig, Weard-byrig, and Rumcofa (Runcorn?), in 914 and 915, by "Æthelflæd, Lady of the Mercians, and all the Mercians." What I wish is to have the extract continued to the end of the castle-building era, which, I imagine, would not continue for many years. **HARROPDALE.**

[3,928.] **THE FINEST COUNTS OF YARN.**—In the Note on the Chronological History of the Cotton Manufacture, part ii., it is stated that yarn of the extraordinarily fine count 700's was spun by Mr. Thomas Houldsworth in 1851. Can any of your readers say what is the finest counts spun since that date? To make the matter intelligible to the general reader, it may be stated that the 700 is the number of hanks to the pound of yarn, each hank being 840 yards long; so that if a pound of this yarn was laid out in a single thread it would be 588,000 yards long, or a trifle over 334 miles. **J. MELLOR.**

THE OAK AND THE ASH.—A correspondent ("W. H. C.") having written to the *Standard* to say that the Ash for twenty years had been behind the Oak, Mr. Thomas Southwell, of Norwich, writes to the same paper as follows:—I have before me a very remarkable series of Natural History observations, entitled "Indications of Spring," kept by the Marsham family at Stratton Strawless, Norfolk, begun in 1736, and continued to the present year. In it the date of leafing of both the Ash and the Oak are recorded for eighty-five years, during which time the Oak came into leaf first on fifty-two occasions, the Ash on twenty-seven, and on six occasions the leafing of both trees is recorded for the same day. The mean time for the leafing of the Oak for one hundred and five annual observations is April 25, and that of the Ash for eighty-five observations April 29.

Saturday, June 27, 1885.

NOTES.

GORTON HALL AND THE BENNETTS.

[3,929.] In the *Lady's Pictorial*, of June 20, I read of a demonstration given at Gorton Hall by Mr. Richard Peacock, J.P. I know the old hall only as the property of Robert Bennett, solicitor, and my mother's cousin, who came into possession on his marriage with Miss Ann Barker, of Oldham-street and Gorton. He had a passion for field sports, and I believe ran himself into difficulties by an extravagant attempt to imitate the Earl of Wilton and establish races for gentlemen riders on his Gorton estate when those at Heaton Park were abandoned. These races were, I believe, only held for two years. He had a celebrated couple of greyhounds, for which he had given £100 each as pups. He had his portrait painted along with these two dogs. Going with Miss Daniels, my maiden aunt, to see Hayter's picture of our young Queen, then on view at Messrs. Agnew and Zanetti's, in Exchange-street, we had to pass the Bennett picture on the staircase. It was a startling likeness, and arrested her eye. She stopped short, ejaculating, "Why, there's Bob!"

"That's Mr. Robert Bennett, of Gorton Hall, madam!" corrected the attendant reverently, as if shocked at the profanity of the familiar "Bob."

"Oh, yes, I know," assented my aunt, as she mounted another stair; "but it's Bob for all that."

He was younger than herself, and had always been Bob in the family home of the Bennetts, Newton Grange, now improved off the face of the earth. Newton Grange is gone, and Newton Lane is now called Oldham Road, but Bennett-street remains and Newton-street, and the Sunday school founded by Ralph Bennett and old Simeon Newton, and called Bennett-street Sunday school; but where are the Bennetts? Alderman Bennett is not of the family, for I put the question to him lang syne.

Robert Bennett, of Gorton Hall, left sons, two of whom were bred to his own profession—law. Can any of your correspondents tell where they are?

Robert—Gorton Hall Robert—had an elder brother John, who did not seem to prosper, though he was a quiet, straightforward fellow. When I was a child he had a very large glass and china shop or warehouse on Piccadilly, almost opposite to Portland-street. (His cousins, the Fawcetts, lived in Portland Place.) He

was the patentee of a large earthenware filter. For some reason or other he failed. He then went into the counting-house of Wood, Rowell, and Co. (Hamilton Wood had married another cousin, an only child and heiress, whose money he squandered, and who came at last to be notorious as "the aristocratic pauper.") He had two sons, Robert and Edward, in partnership as solicitors in Princess-street, the latter of whom married a Miss Nicholson, and a son John, who was a surgeon. Can anyone tell what became of any of these brothers or of their sister Mary? Edward, I know, died, and, I think, Robert, but am not sure. ISABELLA BANKS.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ROBERT ROSE, THE BARD OF COLOUR.

(Nos. 3,905 and 3,909.)

[3,930.] In a volume of *Original Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects*, by the late Charles Kenworthy, of Manchester, may be found some lines on the death of Robert Rose. One of the verses tells us that—

Warm were his feelings and his taste refin'd
His country's weal engaged his ardent mind;
Oppression's foe, the friend to liberty!
Slave-torturing Africa, he sung of thee;
The Bard, indignant at her horrid trade,
Stood nobly forth the negroes' cause to aid.

Of poor Rose's failing Kenworthy wrote:—

One fault him swayed with fascinating tone,
A spell that did his reason oft dethrone.
Peace to the Bard! Oh, had misguided men
Proved less unkind, he'd been himself again!
Ye strict in morals, cease his worth t' assail,
While pity o'er his frailty draws the veil.

Your correspondent, Mr. JOSEPH JOHNSON, is, I think, correct in stating that Mr. Rose never published his poems in book form, but I believe about the year 1848 he was intending to do so, as I remember seeing him on several occasions at the printing office of the late Mr. George Falkner, then of King-street, and in whose employment I was; and I have a distinct recollection of a specimen page of his poems being set up in type—a very common practice previous to publication. T. F. M.

Avon-street, Chorlton-on-Medlock.

HORNBY CASTLE.

(No. 3,918 and 3,919.)

[3,931.] It is a tradition in my father's family that Hornby Castle was formerly in the possession of the Varleys, and was forfeited at the Restoration, the Varleys having taken the commonwealth side.

A certain Richard Varley did marry a granddaughter of Oliver Cromwell, whose prayer-book I have seen in the possession of a member of the family. From this marriage descended Cromwell Varley the electrician. My grandfather, James Varley (chemist and bleacher of Bolton and Pendleton), and his elder brother, John Varley, drysalter, of Deansgate, Manchester, as far back as 1788, whose residence for some years (until 1809) was Strangeways Hall—both came from Hornby, where John Varley had either built or inherited a fine square mansion, almost opposite to Hornby Church and Castle. On this mansion there was a mortgage, which my grandfather was at one time solicited to redeem. This he declined. Esther, the sister of these two, married, firstly, a Mr. R. Bracken, and then the Rev. Mr. Cragg, rector of Hornby. He, his widow, daughter, and James Varley, my grandfather, are all buried in Hornby Churchyard. Visiting Miss Cragg, and Miss Varley, my aunt, then resident in Giggleswick (about 1845), I was credibly informed that a certain portion of Hornby Church belonged to us (the Varleys), and was not to be alienated. How this may be I cannot tell, but I was taken to the spot, and meeting in Dublin years after with a Mr. M'Veigh, who came from Hornby, he confirmed all I had been told, and seemed saturated with Varley anecdotes and pedigrees.

It was too young at that time to care much about such matters. Perhaps your correspondent, Mr. ROBERT RICHMOND, or the original querist, may throw some light on these annals or traditions. If the Varley name did appear in any of the old deeds, I should be glad to learn. ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE NANTWICH BRINE BATHS.

(Query No. 3,911, June 6.)

[3,932.] The brine and medicinal baths at Nantwich (four miles from Crewe) were opened in April, 1883. They cost about £3,000, and the building is on the site of the Old Biot, or brine-shaft, which is supposed to have been the first saline spring discovered in the town. The promoters of the enterprise were mainly influenced by the success of the brine baths at Droitwich, and it is stated that in certain medicinal qualities the salt springs of Nantwich are superior to those of Droitwich. Dr. J. M. Fox, the medical officer of health for Mid-Cheshire, says: "It has been long notorious that nature herself supplies the ingredients of a brine bath in a way which cannot

be entirely reproduced by human agency. The benefit of these baths as general strengthening agents, and as specific curers of many obscure and incurable nervous and cutaneous disorders, has also long been familiar to the medical profession and the community in some districts. What has been wanted, and it is now desired to supply, is salt-water baths as prepared by nature in the midst of a healthy and attractive rural district, accessible, also, to all parts of the kingdom by contiguity to, perhaps, the most important and well-known of all railway centres, namely, Crewe. As to the beneficial nature and efficacy of the water, it may be taken to depend upon the presence in subtle combination of chlorine and other ingredients, which are universally known as the great purifying agents of nature. It would exceed the limits of this statement to specify the various neuralgic and gouty disorders to which, under skilled guidance, the use of these waters would be applicable. But there is a far wider range of those suffering from chronic weakness in its multitudinous modes of manifestation in regard to which the benefits of sea-bathing may here be realized in a concentrated and enhanced degree. In the interest of therapeutic achievement, the concentrated sea-water of Nantwich has been allowed to remain submerged too long. It is to be hoped that every means may now be taken to give a wide publicity to the knowledge of the existence of brine baths in Nantwich. The town will thus ensure, not a new reputation, but a renewal of one which it had before the Conquest." I may add that your correspondent, or any one else interested, can obtain a pamphlet of some fifty pages, explanatory of the uses and value of the brine baths, and also a table of terms, on postal application to E. Tomkinson, at the Baths.

INDEX.

LEAD-MINERS' RIGHTS IN DERBYSHIRE.

(Query No. 3,924, June 20.)

[3,933.] The remarkable mining custom to which W. C. refers is explained in the rhymed chronicle written by Edward Manlove, sometime steward of the bargmoote court for the lead-mines within the wapentake of Wirksworth, in the county of Derby. The chronicle was first printed in 1653; a second edition, with a glossary of mining terms and many valuable notes, by Mr. Thomas Tapping, of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, appeared in 1851; and a third edition, revised and improved by Mr. Tapping,

was published by the English Dialect Society in 1874. The old poem opens as follows:—

By custom old in Wirksworth wapentake,
If any of this nation find a rake,
Or sign, or leading to the same; [he] may set
In any ground, and there lead-ear may get;
They may make crosses, holes, and set their stowes,
Sink shafts, build lodges, cottages, or coes.
But churches, houses, gardens all are free
From this strange custom of the minery.

A "rake" is explained in the Glossary as a vein; a "stowe" is a machine which formerly was the only apparatus for drawing up the ore in tubs from the mine; and a "coe" is a little house which miners are by custom allowed to make over their groves or mines to lay the ore in. Mr. Tapping, in his note on the above-quoted lines, says: "The Wirksworth custom seems to be that any of the King's subjects may in all places (houses, orchards, gardens, churchyards, highways excepted) dig and search for veins of lead ore, and (in case the ground be not possessed before by any other miner) may possess and take up as many meers of ground as he pleases with stowes, by placing in every meer, or twenty-nine yards one pair (one pair standing for one meer and one vein only), and that by duly working the same, and paying to Her Majesty or her farmers the dues according to custom, such miner gains to himself a customary inheritance descendible to his heirs, and thereof the wives have dower, or, more properly, a right resembling it."

The custom seems to be now exclusively confined to the wapentake of Wirksworth, but formerly something resembling it also prevailed in the contiguous wapentake of the High Peak. Manlove's poem has relation to the mineral customs of Wirksworth only; and whatever may formerly have been the rule in the High Peak wapentake, a change was effected by a recent Act of Parliament 14 and 15 Victoria, c 94, whereby the High Peak mineral customs were consolidated, modified, and rendered applicable to the modern and improved system of mining.

It will be observed that the "right" is not given only as W. C.'s question implies, to "a miner born in Derbyshire," but to any of "the King's subjects."

ION.

* * *

The mineral laws of Derbyshire consist of a body of regulations framed upon ancient rights and customs. Many of them have been modified to bring them in harmony with modern usage, but the right of a miner (not necessarily Derbyshire born) to enter at

any time into any part of the King's Field to dig or search for veins of ore, is still maintained, subject, of course, to the laws and customs of the Miners' Courts.

Mr. Glover, in his *History and Gazetteer of Derbyshire* (Mozley & Son, Derby, 1831), vol. 1, p. 55, says:—"The regulations respecting the rights of miners, and the dues payable for the ore in different parts of the mining district, are numerous and various. The principal tract containing lead is called the King's Field. Under this denomination the whole wapentake of Wirksworth is comprised, as well as part of the High Peak. The mineral duties have from time immemorial been let on lease. The lessees have each a steward and barmaster, and deputy-barmasters in the districts they hold of the Crown. When a miner has found a vein of ore in the King's Field, provided it be not in an orchard, garden, high road, or churchyard, he may obtain an exclusive title to it on application to the barmaster. The method of giving possession is, in the presence of two jurymen, marking out in a pipe or rake work two meers of ground, each containing twenty-nine yards, and in a flat work fourteen yards square. If a miner, however, neglects to avail himself of his discovery within a limited time he may be deprived of the vein of which he has received possession, and the barmaster may dispose of it to another adventurer."

Again, on page 56: "The origin of the mineral laws of Derbyshire is unknown, but it appears from historical records that Edward the First directed the sheriff of the county to call a meeting at Ashbourn of such persons as were best acquainted with the rights and customs of the miners. On that occasion the miners petitioned that their privileges should be confirmed under the Great Seal as an act of charity to preserve them from the dangers to which they were exposed."

The appendix to vol. i. (pp. 25-33) contains numerous writs and inquisitions issued by subsequent monarchs to establish the rights of the Crown, and to confirm the miners in their privileges.

In the same work (vol. 1, p. 60) the author refers to the ancient right of the miners to dig or search for veins of ore without being accountable to the owners or occupiers of the soil for any damage which they did to the surface, or even to the growing crops. "At present, however," he says, "it is held that unless a miner procures ore enough from any

search he may make after a vein to free the same, that is, to pay to the King, or his farmer or lessee, a dish of ore, he is liable to the occupier for all damage he may have done him." And on page 61 it is stated that "If a known vein, whether productive or not, crosses the paddock or garden of a farmer, or the park of a gentleman in the King's Field, it must be taken of the barmaster by the payment of a dish of ore; sham stowsees, or even a real stowse, must be erected, and periodical attempts, however slight and colourable they may be, must be made to work the vein. Unless this is done, any other person, by application to the barmaster, may dispossess him of such vein, enter his lands, and make buddle-ponds and ways and roads within his grounds."

Mr. Pilkington, in his *View of the Present State of Derbyshire* (Marriott, Derby, 1803), vol. i., pp. 109-115, gives in his quaint style an account of the mineral customs which closely corresponds with the quotations I have given from Mr. Glover. There is also "The Rhymed Chronicle," by Edward Manlove. The subject is a wide one, and very interesting. If your correspondent cares to pursue it he will find the works I have quoted in the Manchester Reference Library, and doubtless others on the same subject, to aid his researches.

R. HACKETT.

161, Embden-street, Hulme.

QUERIES.

[3,934.] THE NICHOLSONS OF POULTON-LE-SANDS. Particulars wanted of this family, and the Christian name of the last Nicholson who was owner of the hall and estate.

H. CHAMBERS.

Patricroft.

[3,935.] MANCHESTER TO MONMOUTH BY ROAD. I purpose driving from Manchester to Monmouth shortly, and should be glad if any of your readers could give me information as to the shortest and best route to take, the approximate distance, and the names of cheap and comfortable inns. I shall be glad of any information, even though it may only allude to one small portion of the journey.

A. C. W.

[3,936.] OLD SONG: "IT'S TIME TO BE JOGGING AWAY."—About twenty years ago, whilst staying at the fine old inn called the White Swan, at Newby Bridge, near the foot of Windermere, I heard a jovial cattle-drover sing a snatch of a quaint north-country song, the burden of which was "It's time to be jog-

ging away." I should be glad if any of your readers can tell me where the words of that song may be found.

EDWIN WAUGH.

[3,937.] "BALLOW."—Does anybody know what the word ballow means? It is a word in common use in Lancashire, and is chiefly heard when a boy who accidentally drops his taw when playing marbles, wishes to have another chance. I think it is a word more used in this district by boys than men. If a boy chances to find anything, if another boy is with him at the time, he will invariably cry out, "ballow me halves," or "ballow me whacks." Does anybody know the origin of "going whacks;" and can any of your readers say if "ballow" is used elsewhere than in this district? Also, may I ask does it mean halt, stop, delay, pause, wait a moment, let us examine? Sometimes it seems a sort of apology, and often a command, and then again as a sort of excuse. It is no uncommon thing, when a number of children stop opposite a toy shop or a confectioners, for one to shout out, "ballow me all this shop."

W. H. B.

ILLITERATE BRIDES AND BRIDEGROOMS.—Of the males who married in the year 1883 12·6 were unable to sign their names, while the percentage of similarly illiterate brides was 15·5. These percentages, says the Registrar-General, were both considerably lower than any previously recorded, and testify to a satisfactory progress in elementary education. The progress in the diffusion of elementary education, as measured by the ability to sign the name in writing, was very much greater in the last decennium than in any of the three preceding periods, the proportion of illiterate bridegrooms having fallen 33 per cent in the course of the last ten years, and the proportion of illiterate brides having fallen no less than 39 per cent. In the course of the entire period of forty years the proportion of illiterate males decreased by 61·5 and the proportion of illiterate females by 68·4 per cent. Taking the whole country in the aggregate, the proportion of illiterate women is considerably higher than the proportion of illiterate men; but there are differences between the counties in this respect. The general rule is that in the metropolitan, and in the agricultural counties the women are more educated than the men; whereas in the mining and industrial counties the reverse is the case, the men being more educated than the women. Speaking generally, and of both sexes, elementary education appears to be most generally diffused in the little county of Westmorland, and after this in London and the adjoining counties of the South-Eastern division, Devonshire, in the South-Western division, also holding a high position; while the parts that show the greatest deficiency are Monmouthshire and Wales, Staffordshire, and Bedfordshire.

Saturday July 4, 1885.

NOTES.

AN EARLY RAILWAY GUIDE.

[3,938.] Without any desire to renew a discussion which seems disposed to break out periodically, I should like to call attention to the following little book:—

Robinson's Railway Time and Fare Tables, containing correct time and fare tables of all the principal railways in Great Britain, derived from original sources, compiled expressly for this work. Illustrated with correct railway maps. To which is added tables of coach and cab fares (by authority) to all the Metropolitan railways, and from the stations at Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester. London: Published at the *Railway Times* office, 122, Fleet-street. 1841.

The book is a small octavo of ninety-two pages. I believe that a second edition was published, but the enterprise was short-lived. The compiler was, I think, connected in some way with the *Railway Times*.

R. B. P.

London.

COLLOQUIAL USE OF "FEAR" AND "AFRAID."

[3,939.] As showing how words in common use are taken to express the ordinary and proper meaning attached to them, but very different from the one intended by the speaker, I quote the following two sentences from the *North British Mail* of Monday last, June 29:—"The recklessness of miners is, unfortunately, exemplified by the remark of one of the Clifton Hall hands, who was fortunate enough to escape. He admitted that smoking had been permitted, but was *afraid* that the recent explosion would put a stop to it." Now, anyone familiarly acquainted with the dialectal speech-lore of our manufacturing districts will know that the collier did not mean that he had any *fear* of smoking in mines being strictly prohibited, or that it would cease, but that he *thought* so. If you ask an illiterate stonebreaker on the road side, "Do you think it will rain?" he will answer, "Awm *feart* it will," not meaning that he is in the slightest degree *afraid*, but is simply telling you what his opinion of the weather is.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

CURIOUS RELIC OF THE PETERLOO MASSACRE.

[3,940.] Whilst in London, during Easter week, I bought from an old man a curious relic of the famous Peterloo Massacre. The relic is a small china cream

jug, about six inches in height and very strong. The sides are covered with various inscriptions. On one side is an admirable portrait of Henry Hunt. In his hand is a coil of paper, whilst above his head is written "Hunt and Liberty," and beneath "Bad luck to the Manchester Butchers." Grouped around the portrait are flags, standards, and banners, bearing such inscriptions as "Hunt the Heroic Champion of Liberty," "Unity," and "Liberty." On the other side are cannons, bayonets, stag, fruit, and scrolls. On the latter are written "Bill of Rights," "Habeas Corpus," "No Corn Bill," and "Universal Suffrage." Beneath is written "Annual Parliaments and Votes by Ballot." The old man from whom I obtained it could tell me nothing of the former owners. As I have been offered by a local antiquary five times the money I originally gave for it, I am inclined to place some value upon it. Perhaps some of your correspondents have met with like jugs; and, if so, I should be glad to learn something concerning its history.

E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam, Rusholme.

POOR RICHARD.

[3,941.] Mr. Ellis Lever has presented to the Public Free Libraries Committee two framed copies of an engraving entitled "Poor Richard Illustrated," which it is intended to place in the reading rooms of two of the branch libraries. The engraving contains a portrait of Benjamin Franklin, and twenty-four vignettes illustrating his well-known maxims. Encircling each vignette is a band on which are printed two or more of Poor Richard's wise saws. The plate was published at Boston, and bears the name of O. Pelton as engraver and E. Herbert Clapp as publisher. It has had a large circulation in the United States, but it is interesting to note that it had an English and not an American origin. The Free Reference Library possesses an impression of the original plate, engraved by Dighton, and published early in the present century by Bancks and Co., Exchange-street, and St. Anne's-street, Manchester. The drawing is decidedly freer and more pleasing than in the American imitation, and the ornamental work which fills the spaces between the vignettes is of a different and more appropriate design. It is headed "Bowles's Moral Pictures, or Poor Richard Illustrated; being Lessons for the Young and the Old on Industry, Temperance, and Frugality, by the late Dr. Benj. Franklin."

Dr. Franklin began his Poor Richard's Almanac in

1732, and considering it a proper vehicle for conveying instruction among his subscribers, who bought scarcely any other books, he filled up the chinks between the remarkable days in the Calendar with proverbial sentences designed to inculcate industry, frugality, and other virtues. "These proverbs," he says in his Autobiography, "which contained the wisdom of many ages and nations, I assembled and formed into a connected discourse, prefixed to the Almanac for 1758; as the harangue of a wise old man to the people attending an auction. The bringing all these scattered counsels thus into a focus enabled them to make a greater impression. The piece being universally approved was copied in all the newspapers of the American continent, and reprinted in Britain on a large sheet of paper, to be stuck up in houses."

In Pennsylvania some thought it had its share of influence in discouraging useless expense in superfluities and in producing that growing plenty of money which was observable for several years after its publication. Poor Richard's *Way to Wealth*, as it was sometimes called, has been often reprinted in various forms and translated into many languages.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BALLOW.

(Query No. 3,937, June 27.)

[3,942.] I don't know whether W. H. B. has failed to catch the exact pronunciation of this word, but it appears to me to be the same word that boys in Oldham used to call "barley," meaning "excuse" or "allow." For example, when playing at marbles or ball, if a boy made a false or unskilful aim he would cry out "barley me," meaning "excuse me," or "allow me to try again." I never heard the word "ballow," nor do I find it in the *Lancashire Glossary*, but I find "barley" and "balla," with the following definition assigned to them: "v., to bespeak, to lay claim to; generally used by children. The phrase *balla me*, is exactly the French *baillez moi*. Colloquial use, 1875, *Balla me th' apples*."

E. W.

Withington.

* * *

As given in Nodal and Milner's *Lancashire Glossary*, this dialect word is "Barley = to bespeak," to claim. Balla, or Ballow, is a bad form of the word, and "balla me," as stated in the Glossary, is not "exactly the French word *baillez moi*." *Baillez moi* (pronounced bah-yai mooah) means to deliver, to bestow. In

wimbry time (= billberry fruit season) I have heard children on the moors when they have fallen upon, or found, a spot containing an unusually abundant crop of the fruit, say to their companions "Barley me, this ile" (isle), meaning "I bar, or reserve, this to myself, having found it." All dialects are racy with common sense.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

A Manchester friend tells me this was in his day pronounced Bala. In my young days, in Chester, we said Barley. The meaning appears to be from the French *parole*, equivalent to spoken, or *j'ai parlé*—I have spoken, i.e., first. In some parts of England boys say "spooks" as an equivalent.

X.

Llandudno.

* * *

Such a word I have often heard used in my boyhood in and around my native town of Accrington; but it is also common in a slightly different form in Liverpool, where, amongst my schoolfellows, it was customary for anyone finding anything to say "barley me this." The word was generally used in cases where a choice had to be exercised or a prior right asserted, on the "who speaks first" principle. The boy who, in company with others, found a penny on the roadside would, were he an Accringtonian, cry out "ballow me this penny;" or, if he were a Liverpool boy, "barley me this," and by so doing establish an irrefutable right to his find. Similarly, if a number of oranges were placed before a similar number of children, the one who wished to obtain a particular orange would seize it and cry "barley me this one," or "ballow me this one," as the case might be, and his fellows would not think of disputing his choice once the talismanic word had been uttered. It seems to be one of those mysterious forms which characterize the unwritten law of schoolboys, by which a proprietary right is established over a given object; and its derivation is equally inexplicable.

FREDERICK HIGGINBOTTOM.

London.

* * *

I remember this was a common word among lads thirty-five years ago, the pronunciation at that time being "baller." It appears to have had many meanings. If at marbles a lad's "taw" slipped and he said "baller," he was allowed to try again. In such games as "ticky toe mare," where a lad chased his companions, and the first he touched becoming "ticky toe mare" in his place, if an accident happened to the lad being chased, such as his shoe be-

coming untied or a button coming off, and he used the word "baller," it was considered a genuine excuse. Then there was "tick tack toe." To play this game consecutive numbers were written on a slate from one upwards; then a lad began a rhyme, touching a figure at each syllable, and the last figure he touched he rubbed out and recorded to himself. His opponent went through the same process until all the figures were rubbed out, when each made an addition, those with the greatest total winning. The rhyme began—

Tick tack toe,
Baller me my first go.

I have heard children when tired of playing say, "let us baller a bit." Here it evidently means rest. Then, again, it was not uncommon for children to stand before shop windows saying "baller me this" and "baller me that;" but whatever one ballered the other was debarred from ballering. The object seemed to be which could "baller" (I don't know whether I may say wish) for the greatest article, and I have not unfrequently known it to end up with "Baller me all this world." I once knew an ingenious youth outdo all his rivals, when this was reached and it was thought he could go no further, with "Baller me all the planets." I cannot say that I ever heard the word used among grown-up people but once. Being out for a walk one Sunday morning I strolled into a very secluded spot and came upon a number of men "tossing." As they took no notice of me I stood and watched them for a time. Whenever a man tossed up the money, and his opponent thought it was not fair, or would go against him, he uttered the words "Baller that toss;" and no matter how the money fell, whether in his favour or against him, the objection was always allowed and the money tossed again.

FRED. LEARY.

Manchester.

MANCHESTER TO MONMOUTH BY ROAD.

(Query No. 3,935, June 27.)

[3,943.] The shortest and best route is by Altrincham 8 (Unicorn), Northwich 21 (Crown and Anchor), Tarporley 31 (Swan), Whitchurch 48 (Victoria), Wem 56 (White Horse), Shrewsbury 67 (Lion), Church Stretton 80 (Church Stretton Hotel), Ludlow 96 (Feathers), Leominster 107 (Royal Oak), Hereford 120 (Mitre), and Monmouth 138 (White Swan). There is another good route to Shrewsbury, 69. Take the road given as far as Northwich, and then

go by Middlewich 27 (White Bear), Nantwich 37 (Lamb), Market Drayton 50 (Corbet Arms), Hodnet 56 (Bear), and Shawbury 62 (Elephant and Castle). It is impossible to say which of these two routes is the most enjoyable. The last given is slightly the longest, and goes through the most towns, but I think the other has the best scenery. The surface of the roads is about the same. From Whitchurch to Shrewsbury there is again a choice of two roads; that given, and another by Prees. I think cyclists generally prefer the latter, which has also the advantage of passing close to the church on the battlefield, which is well worth visiting. The distance by each of these roads is about the same, but as the road-books give that by Wem it is evidently the main road, and so I have given it preference. Leaving Shrewsbury a very slight divergence takes the traveller round by Wroxeter, the site of the Roman city of Uriconium, from which the Church Stretton road is easily regained. On getting to the tollbar south of Ludlow take the left road to Leominster, as it is much the best. On getting to the top of the long hill south of Hereford, take particular notice of the fine views towards the Welsh border. Here take the left road to Monmouth, as the direct road is very hilly. If a few miles are here no object I should go round by Ross (Swan), a beautiful place. It will be about nine miles additional.

The hotels given are the Cyclists Touring Club's head-quarters. The charges would be about ordinary. The most enjoyable and economical mode of travelling is to stay at good hotels at night and avoid expensive meals during the day.

The journey here roughly sketched out is one of the most delightful in the country; combining good roads, beautiful scenery, interesting towns and villages, and plenty of sight-seeing. W. BINNS.
Salford.

QUERIES.

[3,944.] **AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.**—Some twenty or thirty years ago I remember seeing some verses, one of which ran something like this:—

Who shall be first the deadly spear to dart,
And strike it deep into the Turk's black heart?

I was told that they were written by a prominent statesman of that period. Can any reader give me the author's name, and say where they are to be found?
H. A.

[3,945.] **COLONEL SHAW AND HIS OLDHAM ANCESTORS.**—At the conversazione held in the Manchester Town Hall last week in honour of Colonel Shaw, late United States Consul for this district, it was stated that Mr. Shaw "was a Lancashire man, having descended on one side from an Oldham stock." As a native of Oldham I confess to feeling a little proud at this statement, and should be glad if Mr. Gillies, who made it, or anyone else, would furnish us with some further particulars about Mr. Shaw's Oldham ancestry.
E. W.

Withington.

[3,946.] **ROSEMARY IN THE POLICE DOCK.**—Dickens, in his *Sketches by Boz*, in the chapter on Criminal Courts, describes a prisoner in the dock as "restlessly engaged in forming all sorts of fantastic figures with the herbs that are strewed upon the ledge before him." And, again, as the jury turn round to consult upon their verdict, "he bites the stalk of rosemary, with a desperate effort to appear composed." Is it now, or was it formerly, customary in criminal trials to place herbs (*e.g.* rosemary) on the ledge of the dock within the prisoner's reach, as described by Dickens? If so, can any reader explain the purpose and origin of the practice?
J. A. D.

AMERICAN FISH IN ENGLAND—The experiments made by the National Fish Culture Association to acclimatize the American white fish (*Coregonus albus*) have met with gratifying success. A number of those hatched at South Kensington were transferred to the ponds at Delaford, where they have thriven well for the last two months.

SCHOOL AND SCIENCE BOOKS FOR THE CHINESE. A portion of the work of Protestant missionaries in China, which has attracted little attention in this country, and which, nevertheless, is of great importance, is the preparation of school and text-books in Chinese. For this purpose Protestant missionaries of all nationalities and denominations have united. At a general conference held in Shanghai in 1877, a committee of eight of the leading missionaries was appointed to superintend the preparation and publication of the series. The work has now been going on for eight years, and the committee are able to report that over forty works have been issued, and that thirty more are in various stages of progress. In addition four numbers have been issued of an "outline series" compiled with the object of supplying Chinese schools with small and simple treatises on scientific subjects at cheap rates, suitable either as elementary school-books or as popular tracts for general distribution. What "cheap rates" mean will appear from the fact that the outlines of astronomy costs rather less than a penny, that of political and physical geography and geology about twopence each.

Subscription 4/- per Year, Post Free.

PART 23.

ISSUED HALF-YEARLY.

JULY TO DECEMBER, 1885.

"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive."

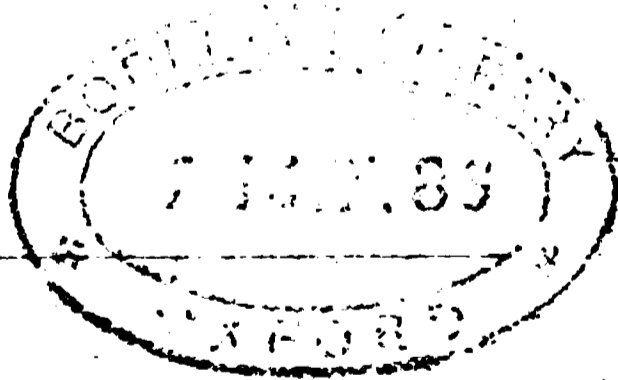
Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]



MANCHESTER:

CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.

1885.

Saturday, July 11, 1885.

NOTES.

A MANCHESTER CELLAR TENANCY IN 1718.

[3,947.] I will thus abstract for your readers the "counterpart," now before me, of certain articles of agreement (under seal), dated the 25th March, 1718, and made "betweene Humphrey Oldfeild, of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, gent., on the one part, and Humphrey Stansfeild, of Manchester, aforesaid, flax dresser, on the other part."

In consideration of a yearly rent of £2, Mr. Oldfield lets to Mr. Stansfield, for seven years, "all that cellar of him the said Humphrey Oldfeild, with its appurtenances, scituate and being at or near the Markett Cross in Manchester aforesaid, and directly under a shopp there now in the possession of Arthur Scholefeild, which cellar is now in the possession of the said Humphrey Stansfeild or his assignes, together with all ways, priviledges, and advantages to the same cellar belonging;" the landlord covenanting to pay all rates and taxes.

The "counterpart" is executed by Humphrey Stansfield, who signs himself "Hump. Stanfield," the witnesses being "Benjamin Kirke" and "Jam. Gee." This Mr. Humphrey Oldfield was a Manchester draper, like his elder brother (John), his father (also John), and his uncle, Humphrey Oldfield (the founder of the Trinity Chapel library). He owed his Christian name (which he transmitted to one of his sons) to the fact that his father was a nephew, and the heir, of that Humphrey Booth (another of our local benefactors) who was grandson of the famous founder of Trinity Chapel, Salford — "Humphrey Booth the elder." The entry, in the Collegiate Church register, of the marriage of Mr. Oldfield, party to the above abstracted deed, I can supplement by adding that the mother of his bride (Elizabeth) was a Manchester widow, named Silence Wagstaffe (living in 1714). I believe that the male, if not also the female, line of this Manchester family of Oldfields has been some time extinct. I have numerous notes, compiled a few years ago, which show the history of this family's transmigration from out of Yorkshire, where they had also been freeholders.

The old plans of Manchester show the situation of

the "Markett Cross" to have been at the junction of Market-street Lane, Market Place, Smithy Door, St. Mary's Gate, and Exchange-street.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.
Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COLONEL SHAW AND HIS OLDHAM ANCESTORS.

(Query No. 3,945, July 4.)

[3,948.] As regards my statement at the recent conversation in the Town Hall as to one branch of Col. Shaw's ancestors having sprung from Oldham and the other in Scotland, I have mentioned the matter to Colonel Shaw, and he confirms the statement which he made to me some years ago. He promises that, so soon as he gets settled on the other side of the "little pond," he will look the matter up and send you full particulars.

A. A. GILLIES.

HORNBY CASTLE.

(Nos. 3,918, 3,919, and 3,931.)

[3,949.] I am a native of Hornby. My father, George Smith, was under steward of Mr. Wright, the land steward to the Hornby Castle estate. Mr. Marsden, the owner of the estate, was a bachelor. Mr. Wright married Mr. Marsden's housekeeper, and they lived in the castle as one family. They had a numerous family all grown to manhood and womanhood when Mr. Marsden died, which would be about the year 1826 or 1827. He left the whole of his estate to Mr. Wright. Admiral Tatham, a distant relative and heir-at-law, disputed the will. It was in litigation a good many years; was tried at York and won by Wright; re-tried at Lancaster and again won by Wright; and finally tried at Lancaster when Wright lost the day. Mr. Wright then went to reside on his estate, Heysham Lodge. My father remained in the capacity of land steward in the Wright family to the end of his life. I remember Mrs. Wright well. She was an elderly lady when I was a girl. I was born in 1821. I have often heard it said she was old Johnny Penny's daughter, of Skerton Hall. Her children are dead. Only one left issue, the Rev. John Marsden Wright, of Tatham Rectory. He left several sons and daughters.

MARY DEAN.
Rowbotham-street, Queen's Road, Manchester.

HERBS IN THE POLICE DOCK.

(Query No. 3,946, July 4.)

[3,950.] The herbs mentioned in this query were Rue and Rosemary. The court was the Central Criminal Court in the Old Bailey, London, and the herbs were placed upon the bench of the dock. This practice has generally been attributed to the properties of those plants in preventing fever, infection, and fainting, and their use for this purpose has been dated from the time of the gaol distemper in the above court, May, 1750. Moreover, rue was symbolical of repentance, and is also called Herb-o'-grace. But it is strange that these herbs should be used together in such a place, as they have been used in company from time immemorial as emblems of remembrance and grace on account of their evergreen foliage.

E. D. M.

* * *

In times not very remote the sanitary condition of our prisons and houses of detention was so deficient that an infectious malady known as the gaol fever decimated not only prisoners awaiting trial, but became also a source of great danger to all who attended our Courts of Justice. It was customary to use as a disinfectant sprigs of Rosemary and herbs of a kindred nature. Infection from the dock being of course the great danger, a plentiful supply of the herb was placed in its vicinity.

JAMES PEARSON.

Milnrow.

CURIOUS RELIC OF THE PETERLOO MASSACRE.

(Note No. 3,940, July 4.)

[3,951.] The cream jug your correspondent E. PARTINGTON describes is in some respects similar to one in my possession. Mine is a china jug about six inches in height, having on one side a portrait of Henry Hunt, the celebrated Birmingham blacking manufacturer; above the portrait are the words "Hunt and Liberty;" below, "Bad luck to the Manchester Butchers;" and on the other side, surrounded by a circle of flowers, are the words, "England expects every man to do his duty, but none of your butchering cavalry." I regret being unable to throw any light upon the history of these jugs.

NATHAN HEYWOOD.

Mount-street, Manchester.

* * *

My father, who was one of the injured at Peterloo, had a similar jug as far back as I can remember, and I preserved it till about twenty years ago, when it

disappeared from the cupboard. I fancy a careless servant broke it, and then threw the pieces away. Ours, however, was not exactly a cream jug, but what we called a quart pitcher. I do not remember all the things on it which Mr. PARTINGTON names, but there was the likeness, "Hunt and Liberty," "Bad Luck to the Manchester Butchers," and the following verse, which Mr. Partington does not mention:—

Henry Hunt, that pillar bright,
The father of the poor,
May kind heaven now protect,
And from villains keep secure.

I can add nothing to its history which Mr. E. P. desires.

GRANVILLE KERSHAW.

Southport.

BALLOW.

(Nos. 3,937 and 3,942.)

[3,952.] Some of your correspondents appear to be confounding two words, having different meanings. I have always found "Balla" used in the sense of laying claim to anything, just as a schoolboy calls "whacks" when an article is found by another boy, and he lays a claim to a share thereof. "Barley" is used when a truce is needed, such as getting out of breath whilst playing "tick," shoe untied, or button coming off. Both terms are still in use in Cheshire; and used by young and old people.

A. B.

Manchester.

* * *

In connection with Ballow or Balla, attention may be called to the word whacks or wacks, much used by boys when playing for tops or marbles. They wack each other, or go shares in one another's gains or losses. If a boy finds anything in the street, when in the company of others, and he desires to keep it to himself, he instantly calls out "No wacks," and is allowed to retain it; should one of the other boys say wacks first it has to be equally divided. This word is not confined exclusively to boys nor to playthings, but is often used by older people; and I was surprised to find it had not been noted in the Lancashire Glossary.

JOHN MELLOR.

* * *

I have long held that the word "Ballow," or "Ballow me," is simply a shortening or corruption of "but allow me." I feel justified in taking this view by the tendency amongst the unlettered to run two

words into one. Thus, at one time, had you asked a question of a Lancashire churlish fellow, your reply would probably have been "gullook," by which he meant—if he meant anything but to be offensive—"go and look," or "go look." It is not uncommon even now to hear the town of Stockport called "Stoppert." If American writers are correct it seems common amongst negroes and others to say "lemme" for "let me," and "gimme" for "give me." Many other illustrations might be given which add probability to my theory.

The strange vicissitudes of words are very curious. When a boy I used commonly to hear anything with a strong or unpleasant smell or taste spoken of as having a bad "hogo," but it was years afterwards before I discovered that the French words "haut goût" were evidently meant, though how these twin Gallic foundlings had been conveyed into a remote Lancashire hamlet still puzzles me. Another word was then used, but mostly applied to butter or milk. If the former was at all rancid, or, what was not uncommon, tasted of turnips, it was said to be "binglay," or sometimes the word was shortened into an adjective, and the ill-flavoured butter was said to be "bing nowt," nowt in this case being a diminutive of naughty, that is, bad.

PETER HART.

Fairfield.

QUERIES.

[3,953.] EXECUTION OF JAMES LEYBURN.—"James Leyburn, Esq., was executed at Lancaster, March 22, 1583." Where can particulars of this affair be found?

H. WIPER.

[3,954.] "CASTLE OF BEESTON."—Among some recent donations to the Free Reference Library from Sir Thomas Baker is a copy, in two volumes, of an old Cheshire novel, with the following title:—

Castle of Beeston; or Randolph, Earl of Chester. An Historical Romance. London: Printed for R. Faulder, New Bond-street. 1798.

The romance is full of old-fashioned villainy, with virtue and beauty triumphing in the end, and is interesting from the familiar local names with which the pages are studded. It was published anonymously and the object of my writing is to inquire whether any of your readers could supply the author's name.

C. W. S.

Saturday July 18, 1885.

NOTES.

HENRY CLARKE, LL.D., AUTHOR OF "THE SCHOOL CANDIDATES."

[3,955.] At the recent sale of a portion of the library of the late Mr. James Crossley a copy of the original edition of "The School Candidates; a Prosaic Burlesque, occasioned by the late election of a schoolmaster at the village of Boudinnoir (i.e. Stretford) Utopia: printed in the year 1788," fell to the lot of Mr. R. H. Sutton, bookseller, of Manchester. This copy formerly belonged to an eminent local physician, Dr. Edward Holme, the first president of the Chetham Society. It is annotated in his own handwriting, and throws some light as to the real characters (given under fictitious names) of that very curious local work. As Dr. Holme was acquainted with the author his marginal notes may, I think, be accepted as authentic.

Opposite the names Hugo de Bragmardo, Noel Epistomen, Robinorosco, and Thimblewillan he writes respectively the names of Hugh Byron, John Knowles, Robert Hartley, and Joseph Willan, who were all local mathematicians of eminence at that time. Our fellow-citizen Mr. John Eglington Bailey, F.S.A., reprinted this interesting work in 1877, and added thereto an exhaustive biography of its learned author, and has thereby earned the gratitude of the whole county, and, in an especial manner, that of the borough of Salford, by rescuing, from the undeserved oblivion into which it had fallen, the memory of Henry Clarke, LL.D., who was many years a schoolmaster in his native town of Salford, and was, perhaps, the most eminent scholar ever born and reared therein. Mr. Bailey inclined to the opinion that Dr. Clarke was the "Thimblewillan" of his own story, but we must now, I think, look for the author in one of the other characters of the book. "Before decays effacing fingers" remove all traces it would be well if the remaining characters of this local book could be identified, and their names put on record in the columns of Local Notes and Queries. It is more than probable that the other characters of the story were, like those above mentioned, all men of local repute, and that their names may be found written in some other copy of the original edition.

The author was an unsuccessful candidate for the office of schoolmaster of Stretford in the year to which his burlesque relates, and he appears to have

written and published it as a means of showing his contempt for the examiners who rejected his proffered services.

DAVID KELLY.

Stretford.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HORNBY CASTLE.

(No. 3,949 and others.)

[3,956.] MARY DEAN is correct. The trials were two at Lancaster and one at York. Coleridge was the leading counsel for Admiral Tatham, as a line in a song made at the time says—

And Coleridge, led by Truth's land-mark,
Safe steered it into port, Sir.

THOMAS STACEY,

Confidential Servant to the late Admiral Tatham.
Creetown, N.B.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.

(Query No. 3,944, July 4.)

[3,957.] H. A. has scarcely got the words correct. They run—

Who foremost now the deadly spear to dart,
And strike the jav'lin to the Moslem's heart?
Who foremost now to climb the leaguered wall,
The first to triumph or the first to fall?

They were written by the late Prime Minister, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, whilst at Eton (1821-7), and appeared in the *Eton Miscellany*. At that time, however, he was thinking more of Richard I. and the Crusaders than *Bulgarian Horrors* and *Letters on Massacre*.

FRED LEARY.

RELICS OF THE PETERLOO MASSACRE.

(Nos. 3,940 and 3,951.)

[3,958.] Your Notes on the Peterloo Massacre remind me that I have a similar relic. It is a thin glass tumbler, about three-and-a-half inches high, by two-and-a-half broad at the top, and cut into the glass are the letters "E. W. 1797," round which are formed in a sort of circle the following words:—

"Success to the Lancashire Supplymentary Malitia." On the other side, standing between two ears of corn as large as himself, there is a sketch of one of the "Malitia." On his head is a kind of small helmet, and lower down he wears an old-fashioned coat and waistcoat, knee-breeches drawn tight at the knees, stockings, and a pair of well-fitting boots, the tops of which come half-way up the calves of his legs. Over his shoulder he carries a gun, with bayonet attached. At the close of the last century, when Napoleon Bonaparte conceived the idea of invading the coasts of Britain, a corps of volunteers

was formed in Lancashire to assist the southerners in preventing his landing, my great-grandfather (Edmund Whitehead), being one of them, and this glass must be, I suppose, a kind of memento of the occasion. If the rest of the regiment were as grim-looking as the sketch on the tumbler, I don't wonder Napoleon didn't come.

W.

Middleton.

"FEAR" AND "AFRAID."

(Note No. 3,939, July 4.)

[3,959.] I am inclined to join issue with my respected and erudite friend Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY upon the meaning he attaches to the word "afraid," in the quotation from the *North British Mail*, that a collier expressed himself "afraid that the recent explosion would put a stop" to smoking in coal mines. To my reading, the collier was afraid that smoking would be put a stop to—that, in fact, the rule or law forbidding indulgence in a pipe would be so strictly enforced as to entirely stop the practice. The word "fear" in the dialectical speech-lore of our manufacturing districts expresses very nearly, if not altogether, the same meaning that it does among the Scotch. It is one of the many words they have in common. If an illiterate stonebreaker on the road, when asked if he thought it likely to rain, would reply "Awm feart it will," an Aberdeenshire farm servant would answer to the same question with, "Am a bit feart it will." The latter would really be "afraid" (shall I say to a very mild extent, but still afraid,) that there would be rain. I remember that a very frequent contributor to the *Oldham Chronicle* during the American Civil War took the Southern cause under his care, and used as a signature to his letters, "Noan Feart." He meant really that he was "not afraid," and adopted that as a motto. Like myself and many other folks, Mr. BRIERLEY is a thorough admirer of "the Ayrshire Bard." Well, then, what does Robbie Burns say in one of his plain-speaking verses?

They tell me, Tam, ye dinna fear
To . . . an' curse an' swear!

That is, Tam was by no means afraid of giving way to lewdness of conduct and looseness of speech. On his part, again, Tam was not at all "feart" to "pay back" his hypocritical censor. I have heard a reckless, dare-devil fellow spoken of as "a fearfu' man." One of this stamp would be accounted "not afraid of anything"; but others would be feart or afraid of him. The word, I consider, both in Lancashire and

over the border, has much the same meaning in all its applications. I certainly understand it to mean or imply ground for some degree of alarm, apprehension, or distrust, rather than as expressing an opinion.

W. R.

Oldham.

GORTON HALL AND THE BENNETTS.

(Note No. 3,929, June 27.)

[3,960.] I am able to give Mrs. LINNÆUS BANKS some information concerning the family of her relatives, the Bennetts, formerly of Newton Grange and Gorton Hall. Of the seven children of Robert Bennett, the two eldest, Robert Barker and Anne Pritchard (who married her cousin Samuel Barker Whitehead), are dead, but the others survive, viz.:—

Ashton, living in London, who married first Rachel Smith, and secondly Alicia Brown, and has issue three sons and eight daughters.

Samuel Barker, major in the Austrian army, living at Richmond, Surrey, m. Sarah Anne d. of James Smith Buckley of Ryecroft Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne, and has a son, Arthur Buckley, and three daughters.

Alfred Barker, living in London, m. Charlotte Brown, has no issue.

Isabella Maria, m. Gottlieb Andreas Hirzel of Winterthur, Switzerland.

Augusta Sophia, m. Lieut.-Colonel Edward Kent Strathearne Murray.

The following members of the family are also living:—

Louisa Hannah Fawcett Bennett, residing at Florence, Italy, only child of Captain James Bennett, formerly of the Seventh Dragoon Guards, and his wife Hannah, d. of John Fawcett, of Manchester, and granddaughter of Ralph Newton, of Manchester.

A sister married Mr. Ainsworth, surgeon, of Manchester.

Samuel Barker, M.D. of Greenheys, Woodford, Essex (son of Charles Abraham, a brother of Robert Bennett).

Samuel Barker (nephew of the above), only child of Charles Frederick, M.D., whose widow has m. secondly Mr. Meeking, of Snaresbrook.

Mrs. Banks makes particular inquiry about the sons and daughter of John Bennett. Edward, who m. Miss Nicholson has been dead some years; he left children, but I do not know how many survive. His widow married a gentleman at Liverpool. His brother Robert is also dead; he married a Miss Garrod of Ipswich (sister of the eminent physician of

Harley-street), and their only son Garrod was killed in a carriage accident a few years ago. Their sister Mary, who was for many years Lady Superintendent of the Governess Institution at Rusholme, is, I believe, living in Manchester or neighbourhood. It was Sarah Anne, only daughter of Charles Bennett, of Newton Grange, who married Hamilton Wood. Two of their sons, Shakspeare and Warrington, are sculptors of considerable repute at Rome. The latter executed the statue of Richard Cobden in St. Anne's Square, Manchester.

B.

QUERY.

[3,961.] VOLUNTEER ENGINEERS IN MANCHESTER. I have heard it stated on good authority that a corps of Volunteer Engineers has existed in Manchester. Is this correct?

ROBERT BAILEY WILSON.

THE LONGEST CANAL TUNNEL.—There are few people in Saddleworth who are not aware that there is a canal tunnel under the Standedge hills, but little is known of its make and origin, and it may not be out of place to give a few particulars respecting it. The tunnel forms part of the Huddersfield and Ashton Canal. The first Act of Parliament for making it was passed in 1794, the second in 1800, and the third in 1804. The first estimated cost was £184,000; the second Act gave power to raise £274,000; the actual cost, however, was above £300,000. The canal is navigable for craft seven feet wide, seventy feet long, of twenty-four tons burthen. The canal tunnel is the longest tunnel in England, and until within a few years the longest in the world, and with the adjoining two railway tunnels, three longest tunnels in the United Kingdom pass under the Standedge hills. The entrance to the canal tunnel is 436 feet above the level of Huddersfield, and 658 feet above the sea level, being at a higher elevation than any canal in the kingdom. The tunnel is eight feet wide and sixteen feet high, one half of the latter being water, leaving eight feet above surface of water to crown of arch. One-third of the tunnel is arched; the remainder is natural rock. The Summit Pool, which includes the canal tunnel, is four miles long. The length of the tunnel itself is three miles 171 yards, being 128 yards longer than the adjoining railway tunnel. The traffic on the canal to each extremity of the tunnel was opened in 1798, when the boats were unloaded and the cargoes carried over the mountains to be again loaded. The tunnel itself was opened in 1811, seventeen years after its commencement, and thirteen years after the completion of the other portions of the undertaking. The tunnel can be supplied with water from reservoirs on the moors at the rate of 627 gallons per minute, through a shaft with a fall of 480 feet. Before the railway took away the traffic, six journeys were made through from each extremity during the day of twenty-four hours, or, alternately from each end, every four hours. "Leggers" supplied the motive power, and were a well-known order in the social economy. In the tunnel there are three open spaces, where boats can pass if necessary.—*Oldham Chronicle*.

Saturday, July 25, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

JAMES LAYBURN.

(Query No. 3,953, July 11.)

[3,962.] The following extract from the *Annals of Manchester*, now in the hands of the printer, will perhaps be sufficient for Mr. Wiper's purpose:—

1584. At the Assizes at Lancaster, James Bell, a native of Warrington; John Finch, a native of Eccleston; and James Leybourne, were found guilty of being Catholic recusants. The two former were executed at Lancaster, and their heads exposed on the summit of the Collegiate Church, April 20. The persecution of the Roman Catholics was very bitter. Details are given in Challoner's *Memoirs of Missionary Priests*, and in Foley's *English Province of the Society of Jesus*. They were arrested at Manchester and imprisoned in the house known as Radcliffes of the Pool, the ancient seat of the Radcliffe family, the site of which is indicated by the name of Poolfold. An engraving of Radcliffe Hall is given in the *Palatine Note-Book*, vol. iii., p. 265. It has been said that Leybourne was executed at Manchester, but this appears to be a mistake.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

THE CHARACTERS IN DR. HENRY CLARKE'S
"SCHOOL CANDIDATES."

(Note No. 3,955, July 18.)

[3,963.] Some few years ago I purchased from Mr. R. H. Sutton a copy of the original edition of the *School Candidates*; and, as there are initials against the names of several of the characters, it may be of some little use in assisting to identify them. The initials appear to have been written long since, but I know not by whom. I shall, however, be glad to show the copy either to Mr. Bailey or to Mr. Kelly. The initials correspond to some extent with the names in the late Mr. Crossley's copy, and thus help to confirm it where it differs from Mr. Bailey's conjectures. The initials are:—Opposite Bragmardo, B.; Noel Epistomen, N.; Pantagriskin, G.; Groppenalbo, two letters which look like J. V. (or J. K. unfinished. H has first been written against Pichrocodus, but afterwards struck out and written opposite Robinorosko. Opposite Thimblewillan is W; Cumberlando—M (but struck out again); Doctor Drubbem, B. The initials, therefore, correspond with Mr. Crossley's copy so far as relates to Byron, Hartley, and Willan, but not as regards Knowles.

If the names which are common to these two

copies be regarded as settled, it would seem that the names of the characters bear some simple relation to the real names of the persons intended; but of course it is not always the case, in a composition of this nature, that the author makes every one of his characters a portrait, or has even in his own mind a definite object for his satire. It may be, therefore, that the attempt to identify all the characters would be perfectly futile, simply because they had no originals.

W. H. S. WATTS.

Rose Lea, Flixton.

HORNBY CASTLE.

(No. 3,956 and others.)

[3,964.] The information already elicited on this noted law case whets one's appetite for more. Probably some one amongst your readers having sufficient knowledge of the case would be willing to sketch its leading features; and if so, I am sure the public would be gratified to be furnished with such a sketch. I believe it was disclosed at the trials that Wright when first met with in the park by Squire Marsden was a small boy in wretched poverty. Mr. Marsden spoke to him, and took him into his house and service as shoeblack. The viper must be well warmed before he can do much mischief. Wright before very long became land-steward, and then began artfully plotting to get possession of the castle. He got supreme authority into his own hands, and had audacity enough to contrive that everything belonging to the easy-going Mr. Marsden should be spoken of as his—even the castle pack of hounds were commonly spoken of as Mr. Wright's. This clever policy, it is supposed, was intended to prepare the world to easily accept him, on Mr. Marsden's death, as his sole legatee. A sketch in which any particulars of interest given in the evidence, or any telling points in the pleadings briefly noticed would be very interesting to read. Was forgery charged against Wright in the first instance, or did Admiral Tatham rest his claim on Mr. Marsden's mental weakness and unfitness to make a will? What fresh evidence justified a second trial, and why was it at York? Who were engaged as counsel besides Coleridge, and on which sides? Who were the solicitors engaged and the judges who presided? On what ground was the final judgment in favour of Admiral Tatham? What were the dates of the trials? Is any printed account of this Tichborne like affair easily accessible? Mr. Stacey refers to a song. A ballad of the time reciting the incidents

and excitements connected with this romantic trial would be worth printing afresh. J. GODSON.

Ashby Folville Vicarage, Leicestershire.

VOLUNTEER ENGINEERS IN MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 3,961, July 18.)

[3,965.] Mr. R. B. WILSON asks if there has existed in Manchester a corps of Volunteer Engineers. Permit me to say in reply that there has. I remember being present at an amateur dramatic performance at the Theatre Royal in November, 1861, in aid of the funds of the corps. The pieces played were *As You Like it*, and *High Life Below Stairs*. Captains Lathbury and D. Bleackley took part in the performance. Mrs. Charles Calvert was Rosalind. The members of the corps used to drill in the Chorlton Police Station, All Saints. I see, from an old notice before me, that a parade was called for Saturday, March 22, 1862, and one for the following Saturday. I think the parades were generally in the Town's Yard, where the present Town Hall now stands.

C. DAGGATT.

* * *

A regiment of volunteer engineers did exist in this city about the year 1861. The head-quarters were for some time at No. 109, Grosvenor-street, All Saints, the band practising at what was then known as Turner's dancing-room, opposite the baths, in Leaf-street, Hulme, under the leadership of the late John Vetter (brother of Mr. Fred. Vetter), and Mr. John Field was bandmaster. The uniform of the engineers was scarlet and white forage cap, scarlet coat with white braid facings, dark-blue trousers with white stripe. Although I was a member of the band my memory fails me in naming any of the principal officers with the exception of one, namely, Sergeant John Barras Rutherford, son of Mr. John Rutherford, builder, of Bent Place, Cheetham.

THOMAS B. BLEZARD,

Sergeant First Manchester Engineer Volunteers' Band.

* * *

That there existed one of the above corps in this city is almost a fact, but not quite. Some three years ago Mr. Drynan, late Captain First Cheshire Engineer Volunteers, endeavoured to raise a similar corps, and received names and addresses of young men to the number of about 500, who were willing to join, but the undertaking did not meet with the approbation of the War Office, and consequently it fell through because the necessary capitation grant was not forthcoming. Now that the authorities are beginning to

see that the Volunteers are of some use, and are actually talking of increasing the Naval Volunteers so as to act as coast guards, I trust that some one (perhaps Mr. J. R. Drynan himself) will set the Engineer Corps on foot again. There are scores of young men desirous of being enrolled in the present rifle and artillery corps, and are unable to do so because they are full up to their establishment. Such a corps would be welcomed by these, and would soon fill its ranks. Liverpool has its Naval, Artillery, Horse, Engineer, and Rifle Volunteer battalions, and why should a town like Manchester be behind in this very important branch of the service?

AN ARTILLERYMAN.

QUERIES.

[3,966.] DR. SPENCER HALL.—I should be glad to have a complete bibliography of the writings of this author.

WILLIAM ANDREWS.

Hull.

[3,967.] THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS IN LANCASHIRE.—A tombstone (with mace and sword on either side a full-length cross), said to be a Knights Templar's, was discovered two or three years ago when Ribchester chancel was refloored. I wish to know if any other preceptory of this ancient order of knights besides that at Stydd, next Ribchester, formerly existed in Lancashire.

J. GODSON.

[3,968.] A DARLINGTON CUSTOM.—In the *Larchfield Diary*, a work containing extracts from the Diary of the late Mr. Newburn, first railway solicitor, published at Darlington in 1876, I find the following item:—

On Monday [August 30, 1847] William Walters, of Firth Moor, claimed of me, as Chief Bailiff, the customary reward of a bottle of wine for the first boll of new wheat which had been sold in Darlington market that day.

Any particulars respecting the origin of this curious custom will oblige.

WILLIAM ANDREWS.

Hull Literary Club.

[3,969.] MANCHESTER AND THE RIVER SPOLDEN.—Jeremy Collier, in his *Great Historical, Geographical, Genealogical, and Poetical Dictionary*, 1701, says:—"Manchester is a very rich, populous, and beautiful market town upon the east side of the river Spolden, near the borders of Cheshire, at the south end of the county of Lancaster, in the hundred of Salford." This river "Spolden" must be our silvery-meandering

Irwell. But some time since in these columns there was a discussion as to the origin of the name Irwell, which would lead one to suppose that that name is very ancient. Can anyone say whether the Irwell has ever been known as the Spolden, or is this an error of Jeremy Collier's? E. D. M.

[3,970.] SUNSET PHENOMENA AT LEEK.—Whilst reading West's *Picturesque Views of Staffordshire*, in the Free Reference Library, I came across the following singular statement with reference to Leek:—

This town is remarkable for the following singular circumstance. By the intervention of craggy mountains, at a considerable distance westward of the town, the sun sets twice the same evening at a certain time of the year; for after it sets behind the top of the mountain, it breaks out again on the northern side of it, which is steep, before it reaches the horizon in its fall; so that, within a very few miles, the inhabitants have the rising sun when he has, in fact, passed his meridian.

Perhaps some of your readers may have witnessed this singularity, and may give us the time of the year when it occurs; also the name of the hill which occasions it. G. A. DABBYSHIRE.

SACRIFICE OF BIRDS TO WOMEN'S FASHIONS. Mr. George A. Musgrave calls attention to wicked cruelty by which millions of bright plumaged birds are ruthlessly sacrificed to fashionable whim and caprice. "In April," says Mr. Musgrave, "I went to an auction room, and, after looking at the bodies of hundreds of birds, ascertained that between December, 1884, and April, 1885, there had been sold 6,828 birds of paradise, 4,974 Impeyan pheasants, 770 so-called Argus, 404,464 West Indian and Brazilian birds, and 356,389 East Indian birds of various kinds. Leaving the City I went to another district and there saw the birds being mounted for the milliners, and dealers in fancy articles. Pursuing the birds still further, I traced the breast of a lophophorus Impeyanus to a general servant's Sunday hat and humming-birds and a kingfisher to a shop in a popular watering-place, where cabinet photograph frames were adorned with three birds and a dead kitten. At first I was inclined to believe that, in spite of the numbers of birds sold, the demand for them was confined to people whose taste was gratified by a vulgar display of what had the appearance of costliness." In this belief, however, he found himself mistaken. Just now there is, it seems, a craze for yellow, and Musgrave tells us how he heard of an order being given by a young English lady for a dress to be trimmed with canaries. "Fortunately, before the order was carried out, she, being capricious, changed her mind, so only eight little birds were sacrificed to the prevailing craze for yellow."

Saturday, August 1, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HORNBY CASTLE.

(No. 3,964 and others.)

[3,971.] It may interest the Querists on this subject to hear that one of the trials in the case of Wright v. Tatham, at Lancaster, was before Baron Gurney, who was himself a witness on the side of Wright, and gave his evidence from the bench in his official robes. I need not say which way the verdict went. Mr. John Higgin, town clerk of Lancaster, was solicitor for Admiral Tatham, and carried the case to a successful issue. Mr. Sharp, solicitor, of Lancaster, represented Mr. Wright and made Marsden's will. George Wright was not charged with forging the will. The question rested on John Marsden's incapability of executing any will. A report of the trial was printed in two volumes. Sir James Scarlett was, I think, leading counsel—Creswell would be junior. J. HAWTHORNTHWAIT.

Levenshulme.

SUNSET PHENOMENA AT LEEK.

(Query No. 3,970, July 25.)

[3,972.] The following account is given in Sleight's *History of the Ancient Parish of Leek* (1883):—

From the higher churchyard is an extensive and varied view, embracing the Roches and Cloud; and at the Summer Solstice the sun seems thence to set twice; for, disappearing behind the latter mountain, he again shows himself on the north side before finally sinking beneath the horizon. When the sun comes near the Solstice, the whole disk of it (to quote Dr. Plot) first sets behind the hill; after awhile the northern limb first appears, and so every night gradually more, till at length the whole diameter comes to set northward of it for about three nights; but the middle night of the three very sensibly more remote than the former or the following. When beginning its recess from the tropic, it still continues more and more to be hidden every night, till at length it descends quite behind it again. So that within a very few miles the inhabitants have the rising sun when he has in fact passed his meridian, as at Harrowdale; and the setting sun twice in the space of a very few hours, as here at Leek.

In a foot note Mr. Sleight says: "An account of this solar occultation, with quaint illustrations, is to be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for May and July, 1738."

W. H. WINFIELD.

Burlington-street, C.-on-M.

* * *

The phenomenon of the double sunset may be witnessed from the churchyard at Leek on the longest day and the day before and after. The hill which occasions it is called "the Cloud," near Bosley, lying north-west of Leek six or seven miles. I am told that the same phenomenon may be witnessed from another point near the town on the sixth of July.

L. N.

Leek.

MANCHESTER AND THE RIVER SPOLDEN.

(Query No. 3,969, July 25.)

[3,973.] In the first edition of Baines's *History of Lancashire* the reader will find the following passages:-

The principal rivers of the county are the Mersey, the Ribble, the Lune or Loynes, the Irwell, the Douglas, the Wyre, the Ken, the Leven, and the Duddon. The course of these rivers is described by the venerable Harrison, chaplain to Lord Cobham, with great fidelity, and though this description was written nearly three hundred years ago, it will not on that account be the less acceptable to many of our antiquarian readers; while others will be impressed with the immutability of these striking features of nature, and with the slight variation in the names of the places through which the rivers pass, or that are watered by their fertilizing streams.

The writer describes minutely the course of the various rivers, and particularly the Irwell and its tributaries. On page 93 of the second volume of the above work the author traces the course of the Rache [Roch or Roche] down to its junction with the Irwell:-

The Rache consisteth of sundry waters, whereof each one in a manner hath a proper name, but the greatest of all is the Rache it self, which riseth among the blacke stony hilles, from whence it goeth to Littlebrough, and beying past Clegge, receyveth the Beyle, that cometh thither by Mylneraw chappell. After thys confluence also, it meeteth with a rill neere unto Rachedale, and soone after with the Sprotton water.

I believe this must be the stream which confused Jeremy Collier during the compilation of his work. Tracing up the course of the Irwell, perhaps upon some imperfectly constructed map, he may have fallen across the name and so caused the mistake. The correct name of the stream is "Spodden." Names upon maps are, even now, frequently mis-spelt, and the substitution of the letter "l" for "d" in the name "Spodden" would give the name as mentioned

by Collier, Mr. Harland, in revising and editing the second edition of Baines's *History* (published in 1868), corrects the name in the original edition himself, and the name "Spodden" is inserted in brackets immediately after the words "Sprotten water," the name given to the stream by Harrison. In his concluding remarks upon the Rache he says:-

From hence (receyving a water that cometh from the rootes of Ravenpike hill by the way) it goeth by Deane and Bolton in the more, and so into Bradspa water, which taketh his way to Levermore, Farnworth, Leverlesse, and finally into the Irwell, which I before described, and whereof I finde these these two verses to be added at the last:-

Yrke, Irwell, Medlocke, and Tame,
When they meete with the Mersey, do lose their name.

From this we may infer that our "silvery, meandering stream" was known by its present name at least two hundred years before Jeremy Collier wrote his "great work." There are also some very precise remarks upon the Goyt and Mersey which may be found useful.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[3,974.] THE FREEDOM OF A CITY.—What is meant by the freedom of the city being bestowed upon a person?
W. E. S.

[3,975.] OLD SAYING.—I should like to know from whence the saying is derived, "I am so hungry that I could eat a man off his horse."
PAUL.

[3,976.] CYCLING ROUTE: MANCHESTER TO NOTTINGHAM.—Will anyone acquainted with roads oblige a bicyclist with the best route from Manchester to Nottingham?
THOMAS SHAW.

[3,977.] WALKING TOUR IN NORTH LANCASHIRE.—Can any reader give a good walking route, with distances, from Blackburn, and proceed North Lancashire way, at the rate of about twenty miles a day?
RED ROSE.

[3,978.] GEORGE SMITH'S WEEKDAY WALKS.—At page 161 of the *Reminiscences and Gleanings* of the late R. W. Proctor, reference is made to some papers entitled "Weekday Walks," by Mr. George Smith, sometime Editor of the *Shepherd's Magazine* in the first quarter of this century. Can any reader kindly tell me where a copy of these papers may be seen?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Saturday, August 8, 1885.

NOTES.

A SALFORD MEMENTO OF OLD MILITARY ASSESSMENT
LAW.

[3,979.] I have pleasure in publishing in this column one of the local records forming part of my collection of MSS.:—

Octobr ye 28^o 1663.

Salford.

fforasmuch as Compl^t is made unto us That Humphray Booth of ye said Towne was Charged by ye assess^{rs} thereof to fynd and shew a man sufficiently Armed with a Musket which he hath donne But sevrall psons Joyned to be Contributr^s with him towards ye said charge neglect and refuse to pay their pporcons thereof, Theise are therefore in his Maj^{ties} name To charge & Comand y^e fforthwith to Collect Levye and gath^r of ye said Contributr^s hereund^r written their sevrall pporcons as they were assessed by ye assess^{rs} of yor said Towne Towards the said Charge of man and Armes by distresse and sale of goods According to the Act of Parliam^t in that behaulfe made Given und^r or hands and seales ye day & yeare above written.

To the Constables of Salford These

Thomas Birch Jun ^r	01 — 07 — 01
John Pendleton	00 — 04 — 00
Roger Bradshaigh	[seal]
Robte Holte	[seal]
Roger Nowell	[seal]

The Humphrey Booth mentioned in the warrant was a landowner in both Salford and Blackley, inheriting (in tail) from his father (Mr. or Captain Humphrey Booth) with the Blackley estate, the well-known house known as "Booth Hall," which was built by the latter gentleman in 1639-40, and in which the younger Humphrey, the only son and last male descendant, barred the entail in 1662. The latter shortly afterwards went to reside in London, and died at Barnet (on his way home to Lancashire) early in 1676. He had, in 1666, joined with his cousin, Robert Booth (then an Irish puisne judge, and afterwards knighted and made Chief Justice in Ireland) [see *City News*, 3,552, &c.] in appointing the Rev. John Hyde as minister to Trinity Chapel, founded by their grandfather. I possess other unpublished particulars of the Humphrey Booth in question. By the way, the Salford residence or mansion house of the Booths is, or lately was, I believe, still standing. Perhaps one of your corre-

spondents (our friend Mr. John Owen, or another) will be able to direct us to its actual site. As the mansion would probably have been the home of the worthy founder, the spot must be a most interesting one to us Manchester men.

In my next note I propose to publish another local memento of the old system of military levies, this memento being more particularly associated with Sale and neighbourhood.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE BENNETTS OF GORTON HALL: WARRINGTON
WOOD.

(Note No. 3,960, July 18.)

[3,980.] In the above interesting Note relating to the family of Bennett of Gorton Hall, your correspondent "B." writes as follows:—

It was Sarah Ann, only daughter of Charles Bennett, of Newton Grange, who married Hamilton Wood. Two of their sons, Shakspeare and Warrington, are sculptors of considerable repute at Rome. The latter executed the statue of Richard Cobden in St. Anne's Square, Manchester.

The writer here evidently mistakes John Warrington Wood for Marshall Wood. It was the latter who executed the statue of Richard Cobden in the year 1867, and it was the latter who was the brother of Shakspeare Wood, and who, for a time, resided with him in Rome. Marshall Wood died several years ago. It was in consequence of much serious inconvenience and annoyance caused through three sculptors of the same name living and working so near together, that Mr. John Wood, at the suggestion of several friends, took as a distinctive name, that of his native town "Warrington."

John Warrington Wood, as he is now known, is a sculptor of rare talent, and is the son of the late James Wood, a master stone-mason and a much-respected townsman of Warrington, and Charlotte, his wife, whose maiden name was Gibson. John Warrington Wood and Mary his sister, who married Mr. William Darbyshire of Grappenhall, are the only two children who survive out of a family consisting of six sons and three daughters. Born at Warrington in the year 1839, Warrington Wood, at an early age, showed a very decided faculty for modelling. After studying at the Warrington School of Art for

several years, with unusual success, he started, about the year 1865, for Rome, to study under John Gibson, the eminent sculptor, under whose careful teaching he rapidly advanced in the profession he had chosen. A man with great determination, an active mind, keen observation, and a hand and eye working well together Warrington Wood soon took a high position amongst the sculptors at Rome, and now ranks as one of the best sculptors of the day.

About the year 1873, after working many years in a comparatively small studio, he married a daughter of the late Colonel Hamilton, of Craiglaw, Newton-Stewart, N.B., and soon after removed to the Villa Campana, at the top of the Via S. Giovanni, in Laterano, and close to the Lateran Church. The villa is a bijou residence standing in a delightful garden, in which one of the finest studios, if not the finest in Rome is built. It is here that Mr. and Mrs. Warrington Wood now live, and the studio is full of most charming statues and carefully executed busts. In the year 1877 Mr. Warrington Wood was elected a Professor of the Accademia di S. Luca (Academy of St. Luke) the oldest Art Academy in Europe, an honour which has not fallen to the lot of more than half a dozen of our countrymen since its foundation in 1595. Amongst the more important works by Warrington Wood are the St. Michael and Satan in the Art Gallery of his native town; the two statues of Raphael and Michael Angelo, and the allegorical figure of Commerce and Navigation, all of heroic size, adorning the exterior of the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool; Eve, Sisters of Bethany, the Captive Maid, Ruth and Naomi, and Oberon and Titania; in addition to numerous statues and busts of public men, and members of the aristocracy.

J. B. G.

HORNBY CASTLE AND THE GREAT WILL CAUSE.

(No. 3,971 and others.)

[3,981.] Hornby Castle, besides being, along with other large estates in the Vale of Lune, involved in the Great Will Cause, is historically associated with several great events in earlier times. In 1513 was fought the battle of Flodden Field, Lancashire yielding a numerous host of warriors who greatly signalized their prowess around "stainless Tunstall's banner white," and "Stanley's charge with spur of fire," as depicted by Sir Walter Scott in *Marmion*, his tale of Flodden Field. Edward Stanley, Lord

Monteagle, of Hornby Castle, was one of the commanders of the Lancashire and Cheshire forces; and the ancient ballad of the "Battle of Flodden Field" informs us that in Hornby and its close neighbourhoods "lusty Stanley" drew his valiant men at arms, and that

From Hornby where as he in haste
Set forward with a homely crew.

There can be no doubt that Stanley was eager for the fight, for we have it recorded that he made a vow previous to his march that, should he be victorious on the field of Flodden, he would "do something to the honour of God," and we find that in consequence of this vow he erected a church five years after the battle (1518). This Stanley built the ancient Keep of Hornby Castle, and is supposed to have died about the year 1529. From this nobleman descended the Lord Monteagle to whom was sent the warning letter which led to the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot.

But the inquiry at this moment is touching the Great Will Cause. This great cause was finally settled, after ten years' litigation, in the year 1836, at the autumn assizes at Lancaster, before Mr. Justice Coleridge, by a verdict in favour of Admiral Tatham. Sir Frederick Pollock was specially retained for the legatees under the will of Mr. Marsden. Mr. C. Cresswell (afterwards Judge Cresswell) conducted the case for Admiral Tatham. The great cause was previously tried at the summer assizes in Lancaster, in August, 1834, before Mr. Baron Gurney and a special jury. Admiral Tatham, the plaintiff, was first cousin of Mr. John Marsden, who died in 1826. Mr. Wright, from some humble position in the castle, rose to be Mr. Marsden's steward. In the first trial Wright was plaintiff; the merits of the case rested on the question whether or not Marsden had the mental capacity to make a will; and Admiral Tatham in the first trial did not succeed in his plea. Many eminent and wealthy persons were called upon to give evidence in the case. The learned Catholic historian Lingard was one of these. He officiated to a small Catholic congregation at Hornby; and many times he had been an invited guest at the castle, and his evidence went to the extent of stating that the result of many years' observation convinced him that Mr. Marsden had no capacity to make a will, and that he was quite under the thumb of Mr. Wright. Sir F. Pollock endeavoured to make the doctor admit that he was a Jesuit, and consequently not fit to be trusted in his

evidence. The late Earl of Derby (then Lord Stanley) was another witness for the plaintiff. He gave evidence to the effect that, canvassing at the election times for Mr. Marsden's vote, it was secured to him by Mr. Wright, and that he could never lead Mr. Marsden into conversation. At the trial in 1834 the names of the counsel engaged on both sides were—for Admiral Tatham, Sir James Scarlett, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Starkie, and Mr. Armstrong; for Mr. Wright, Mr. Frederick Pollock (then Attorney-General of the Palatine), Mr. Serjeant Atcherley, Mr. Wightman, Mr. Tomlinson, and Mr. Martin. The only change in the counsel in the trial of 1836 was that Mr. Cresswell took the place of Sir James Scarlett as leading counsel. Both in 1834 and 1836 full reports were published of the trials; but the report of the latter year occupied two large octavo volumes, taken from the verbatim notes of the celebrated shorthand writer, Mr. A. Gurney.

At the two trials evidence was given in defence that Mr. Marsden could play the violin. The evidence for the plaintiff went to show that he could only play one air, and that very indifferently, and that he was heard playing this air at all times, in season and out of season. The name of this air was "Daintie Davie," at one time a favourite with Scotch fiddlers and ballad singers. Some time ago you inserted in your Notes and Queries an account of an annual custom at Aughton, in North Lancashire, of making a monster pudding, and you published a lengthy song written in commemoration. The author of that song was Mr. William Sanderson, a reporter, and one noted for his great poetical ability. He was the author of a song written on the event of Admiral Tatham gaining a verdict on the trial at Lancaster in 1836, and it is set to the tune of Mr. Marsden's favourite air, "Daintie Davie." The following is a copy of the song:—

Who's heard not of the great Will Cause,
Wright and Tatham, Wright and Tatham,
Who's heard not of the great Will Cause,
So oft brought into court, sirs;
Those Pilots Gurney and old Park,
Ran down the Admiral's "bonnie bark,"
But Coleridge, led by truth's land mark,
Safe steer'd it into port, sirs.

CHORUS.

Then boys for Admiral Tatham sing,
Daintie Davie, Daintie Davie,
Make with his name the echoes ring,
Round Horny's ancient towers.

Full oft did Pollock rant and roar,
And blust'ring rave, and blust'ring rave;
Full oft did Pollock rant and roar,
And tiger-like defy a',
Till Cresswell boldly took the ring,
The boaster to the ground did fling,
Just as young David with his sling,
Did slay the great Goliath.

CHORUS.

Then sing my boys for Cresswell too,
Daintie Davie, Daintie Davie,
Who fought the admiral bravely through,
And won his rights for ever.

O! when the glorious news was known,
Far and near, far and near,
O! when the glorious news was known,
Upset were Geordie's lies, sir;
Joy's beams o'er every face were flung,
And gaily danced both old and young,
Whilst cheers burst forth from every tongue,
That rent the very skies, sir.

CHORUS.

Then give the jury three times three,
Daintie Davie, Daintie Davie,
Their verdict stamp'd his roguery,
The castle won for ever.

O! Justice, ye were loth to come,
We griev'd it sore, we griev'd it sore,
O! Justice, ye were loth to come,
So dear to every heart, love;
Yet now since ye have come at last,
We will forgive ye all the past;
But faith we'll hold ye firm and fast,
We never more will part, love.

CHORUS.

Again boys for the Admiral sing,
Daintie Davie, Daintie Davie,
Make with his name, the echoes ring,
Round Hornby's ancient towers.

And when amongst us he shall come,
To claim his own, to claim his own;
And when amongst us he shall come,
Which soon, we hope, he may, sir;
The merry peals of Hornby bells,
Shall chime through Wenning's flowery dells,
O'er Caton Holmes and Tatham Fells,
To mark the happy day, sir.

CHORUS.

Then boys again we'll dance and sing,
To Daintie Davie, Daintie Davie,
Peace ever will amongst us spring,
Since wrong is now made right, sir.

In conclusion, I may mention that on the termination of the trial it was stated that the case had cost the enormous sum of £150,000. A. W.

* * *

All the comments on this matter seem confined to the case of Wright v. Tatham. Does no one know

anything of Hornby Castle history prior to that trial? a trial of which I had never heard save through these N. and Q. I may add in passing that a Jane Higgin, spinster, was cousin to my father, and that the late John Tatham, the respected Quaker draper and botanist, of Settle, was executor under the will of Miss Ann Varley, of Giggleswick, my father's cousin. I understood a while back that some one named Forster was writing a History of Hornby Castle. Is such a work extant?

ISABELLA BANKS.

CYCLING ROUTE FROM MANCHESTER TO NOTTINGHAM.

(Query No. 3,976, August 1.)

[3,982.] The following are the three best and most direct routes from Manchester to Nottingham, though it must be remembered that it is impossible to cross Derbyshire without encountering hills, and a certain proportion of bad roads.

1. By Macclesfield, Leek, Ashbourne, and Derby. This is probably the fastest and the best surfaced road there is; indeed, if the rider goes to Macclesfield by Handforth or Alderley, the only bad and very hilly bit is from Leek to Ashbourne.

2. By Chapel-en-le-Frith, Baslow, Chesterfield, and Mansfield. This route, on the whole, cannot be recommended, though the scenery about Stoney Middleton is almost equal to Dove Dale. Chesterfield to Mansfield is something fearful; indeed, the only good riding on this route is from the latter place to Nottingham.

3. By Buxton, Bakewell, Matlock, Belper, and Derby. The drawbacks to this route are—the long rise over the badly-paved road to Disley, the four-mile hill above Whaley Bridge, the long pull over Topley Pike, and the disgraceful state of the road from Bakewell to Matlock. But the scenery down the valleys of the Wye and Derwent is so exceedingly lovely that I think it ought to have the preference. This route can be shortened by leaving the Derwent valley at Matlock, Cromford, or Ambergate, and going direct to Nottingham; but this will not be found a success. There is also another road from Buxton to Cromford, which would avoid the cut-up valley road; but whatever was gained in road surface would certainly be lost in scenery. This road is also trying riding, as it is a succession of short, sharp hills; whereas the valley road is practically flat and down hill from Taddington to Derby.

There are so many ways to any particular place that it is difficult to tell when to stop. From Whaley Bridge round by Chapel-en-le-Frith will be found a much easier road to Buxton, though of course it is considerably further. The almost universal road through Derbyshire in the pre-railway days was through Chapel-en-le-Frith, Peak Forest, and Wardlow. This forms part of the second route, and joins the third route at Ashford. But it is rather uninteresting and has little to recommend it, though it is the route given by the road-books. If distance is a secondary object, certainly far the easiest route as regards gradients is by Chapel-en-le-Frith, Castleton, Hope, Hathersage, Baslow, Chatsworth and Edensor, and Rowsley, where it joins the third route. There is only one serious hill on this route, that above Chapel-en-le-Frith; while from Mam Tor (where there is a dangerous hill down) it is practically flat and down hill to Derby. This route includes some of the most beautiful scenery in Derbyshire, though, of course, it just misses Haddon Hall. Another fine route is from Glossop, through the High Peak by the Ashopton Inn, to Mytham Bridge, where it joins the last route. The hill above Glossop is worse than the hill between Whaley Bridge and Buxton. But Ashop Dale is lovely. W. BINNS.
Salford.

QUERIES.

[3,983.] THE BURY HUNT.—In whose possession is the picture of the Bury Hunt, painted by Charles Agar and J. Maiden, and exhibited at the Manchester Royal Institution in 1841? EDWIN GRUNDY.
Ashton-under-Lyne.

CURIOUS FACTS ABOUT HABITUAL DRUNKARDS. Some curious particulars with regard to twenty-five patients who have been admitted to the Dalrymple Retreat, under the Habitual Drunkards Act, between October, 1883, and January 31, 1885, are given in the annual report, just issued, of the Inspector of Retreats. Under the heading of family history, it is shown that in eight cases uncles had been described as inebriates; in four other cases grandfathers had been given to drink, while in only two cases are fathers mentioned as being of drinking habits. Of the twenty-five cases referred to, whisky, or whisky and brandy, was the liquor most in demand, it being the favourite drink of nine patients. Eight patients had a craving for "spirits," but only one for gin alone. With regard to the causes of this inebriety, business and financial loss or temptation are assigned in seven cases, domestic loss or trouble in six others, "sociability" in four cases, and want of employment in three other cases.

Saturday, August 15, 1885.

NOTES.

LORD HALIFAX AND THE COTTON FAMINE.

[3,984.] The death of Lord Halifax reminds me of a clever lampoon that appeared on the Manchester walls during the cotton famine. Lord Halifax, then Sir Charles Wood, was the head of the Indian Administration, and was of course unpopular with the Liberal party. He advocated some Indian fabric as a substitute for cotton, and the following squib appeared:—

We want no substitute for cotton,
No substitute is good;
But on the Indian board that's rotten
We want a substitute for Wood.

T. H.

VALUE OF LAND NEAR ST. ANNE'S SQUARE IN 1792.

[3,985.] I have in my possession a document which may be of some interest at the present time as showing the value of land near St. Anne's Square nearly one hundred years ago. It is "a valuation of land and buildings, the property of George Lloyd, Esq., situate near St. Anne's Square, Manchester," and is as follows:—

Mr. Winter's land, 320 yards at £6 ...	£1,920 — —
Buildings	582 — —
	2,502 10 —
Mr. Lever's land, 413 yards at £6.....	2,478 — —
Buildings	672 — —
	3,150 — —
Mr. Philip's and Mr.' Cotton's land, 1,120 yards at £6	6,720 — —
Buildings	2,245 10 —
	8,965 10 —

Lower lays, taxes, &c., to be deducted £11,618 — —

JOSEPH BOOTH.

JOHN POOLEY.

In all, 1,853 yards at £5 per yard, is £9,265. The premises we occupy are worth £300 a year; Lever and Winter's houses, £100; total, £400.

Part of this land would probably be in St. Anne's-street. The Conservative Club is partially built on the site of Winter's Buildings. Land in that quarter has been sold within the last ten years at from £70 to £90 per yard.

M. B.

AMERICAN CRIBS OF ENGLISH INVENTIONS.

[3,986.] M. H. called attention to this subject in your columns on August 1st. I have recently been reading a lecture by Mr. Charles King, president of Columbia College, delivered in 1851, in which he claims for Fulton "the application of a known force in a new manner and to new and before unthought of purposes." Now, what are the facts?

In 1769 James Watt patented the double self-acting engine, which was the first step by which the steam engine was made capable of being used to propel a vessel.

In 1780 James Pickard patented what was no other than the connecting rod, and crank, and the flywheel, the second great improvement which enabled it to be of service in propelling vessels.

In 1781 the Marquis de Jouffrey is said to have worked a boat by steam on the Seine, but the Revolution prevented him from completing his invention.

In 1785 William Symington took out a patent by which he obtained, with economy of fuel, a more perfect method of condensation of steam and a more perfect vacuum.

In 1787 Mr. Miller, of Dalswinton, a gentleman who had spent a fortune in shipbuilding experiments, asked Mr. Symington to apply his engine to one of Mr. Miller's boats, which he accordingly did, and propelled a little pleasure vessel on the lake at Dalswinton at the rate of four miles an hour in 1788. The following year Mr. Symington made a double engine for a boat to be tried upon the Forth and Clyde Canal, and in December, 1789, this trial vessel was propelled at the rate of six miles and a half an hour. The result of these trials was the construction of the Charlotte Dundas, the first practical steamboat ever constructed. She made her trial trip in March, 1802.

Now for Fulton. In 1801 he visited Scotland, and was present at one of the experiments made by Symington, and from him he obtained permission to make full sketches and notes of both boat and apparatus. The fact of his presence is sworn to on oath; and further evidence is found in the fact that the engines he ordered of Messrs. Bolton and Watt, for the Clermont were precisely of the same dimensions of those of the Charlotte Dundas, with the exception of two inches more diameter in the piston; and the patent of Fulton dated from 1809—twenty years after Symington had propelled a boat by steam on Lake Dalswinton, and eight years after Fulton

had taken sketches of his engines in the Forth and Clyde Canal boat. Besides the foregoing evidence, there is the testimony of Mr. Bell, that at Fulton's request he sent him information and plans of Mr. Miller's first experiment.

The Reaping Machine, too, is claimed as an American invention. The fact is that it was invented by the Rev. Patrick Bell, of Arbroath. He first tried it at August, 1828, at his father's farm on Lord Airlie's estate, where it has been in yearly use ever since, and in October of the same year he exhibited it at the Highland Society's Meeting in Glasgow. The principle of the American machine differed in nothing from Bell's, and as some people from his father's farm emigrated to America, it is only reasonable to suppose that they carried the information with them.

Whilst on the subject of steam-boats it may be interesting to note, that the Savannah, built by Americans in 1809, was the first vessel that crossed the ocean employing steam as an assistant. But in her the steam was of a very small auxiliary power, and she mainly depended upon her sails. She cannot, therefore, be called an ocean steamer. The Enterprise, 500 tons burden, with two 120 horse-power engines, started from London to Calcutta, touching the Cape of Good Hope, about 1826, and may fairly be considered the first vessel that made a journey essentially dependent on steam. Subsequently the Royal William, built at Quebec, after running between that port and Halifax from 1831-33, started in the fall of the latter year for Falmouth, and to her belongs the honour of being the first bona fide paddle-wheel steamer that crossed the Atlantic. She was afterwards sold to Portugal and fitted up as a man of war, the Dona Isabella.

FRED LEARY.

Ardwick.

A CHESHIRE MEMENTO OF OLD MILITARY ASSESSMENT LAW.

[3,967.] The following, from the same collection, is, I think, a fit companion for the Salford warrant I published in this column last Saturday. The present Order is neatly engrossed on foolscap; and the four seals (all armorial) are—particularly the first three—well-preserved, high-class specimens of the engraver's art:—

Com. Cestr.

WHEREAS the Estate, late of Mr Massey, in Sale in the County of Chester, now the inheritance of Robert Malyn, Esqr. and Swinehead estate, now

the inheritance of Richard Legh, of High Legh, Esqr. and the estate, late of Mr Geffery Cartwright deceased, and Millington in this County, now the inheritance of Dennis Hayford, of Millington aforesaid, Gentleman, & the Rectory of Mobberley in this County, do now stand charged & chargeable with the finding and maintaining one Horse, Horse-man & Armes, serving in the Troope of Horse under the comand of Sir Thomas Bellott Bart. in the Militia of this County; We, whose names are here subscribed, Deputy Lieutenants for the said County, having this day considered of the same, do think fitt and order that from henceforth the said Mr Malyn shall provide and shew the said Horse, Horse-man & Armes, and that the said Mr Legh, Mr Hayford and the Rector of Mobberley, for their respective estates abovementioned, shall each of them contribute & pay unto the said Mr Maylin, or his order, the seu'all sumes of one shilling and six pence apeice per diem for each day whereon the said Trooper shall be in legall Muster and Exercise. Given under our hands and seales at Namptwich, in the said County, the 12th day of July Anno regni Willmi tertij Regis Angl. &c undecimo; Annog. Dni. 1699.

Wby Aston [Seal]

J. Mainwaring [Seal]

J. Crewe [Seal]

Roger Manwaring [Seal]

The first signatory, Sir Willoughby Aston, of Aston in Cheshire, second Bart. (the baronetcy became extinct on the death, in 1815, of Sir Willoughby Aston, sixth Bart.), descended from Gilbert de Aston, proprietor of Aston-juxta-Sutton, *temp.* Henry II., was the son (and successor in the baronetcy) of the famous Royalist commander, Sir Thomas Aston, who was killed in 1645, after his defeat by Sir William Brereton. It was this Sir Willoughby who erected the sumptuous newer mansion (a little distant from the old seat) at Aston. He died in 1702.

The second signatory is Sir John Mainwaring, of Over Peover, the second Baronet of the original creation (1660), M.P. for Cheshire, and captain of the Light Horse. He died in 1702, and the title became extinct in 1797, since which, however, it has been revived in the family of the present Mainwarings of Over Peover. As is well known, the Mainwarings have possessed Over Peover since the Conquest. Roger, the last signatory, was son of Sir John, and died (*s.p.*) in 1707.

The third signatory is Sir John Crewe of Utkinton, Knt. (a grandson, in the younger line, of the famous Sir Ranulphe Crewe, of Crewe Hall), whose charitable foundation at Nantwich is described in Hall's history of that town, and who died in 1711, aged seventy-one. Further particulars of him may be found in

Hinchliffe's *Barthomley*—the most exhaustive authority I have met with on the subject of the Crewe family.

The Sir Thomas Bellott, mentioned in the Order, was the second Baronet of Moreton, and father of that Baronet (Sir John) on whose death in 1714 the baronetcy expired. An account of the Masseys and the Malyns, in connection with Sale, will be found in any of the county histories of Cheshire.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE BURY HUNT.

(Query No. 3,988, August 8.)

[3,988.] The picture of the Bury Hunt is now in the possession of Mrs. James Holt, of Belgrave Terrace, Manchester Road, Bury.

F. A.

Bury.

HUMPHREY BOOTH'S SALFORD RESIDENCE.

(Note No. 3,979, August 8.)

[3,989.] In case no one better informed should answer Mr. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN's inquiry, perhaps you will permit me to state the little that I have heard on this subject. Calling, perhaps ten years ago, as a distributor of Booth's Charities, upon an old lady, living in one room of a house, which, like herself, had seen better days, she rather astonished me by saying that that was the very house in which Humphrey Booth lived and died. It was situate at this end—on the river side—of Greengate, but was pulled down some time ago, and instead of a front entrance with decorated door-frame which characterized the "genteel residence" of 250 years ago, there is now a pair of huge gates with the inscription: "London and North Western Railway. Parcels to all parts of the kingdom." EDWARD HARRISON.

John Dalton-street.

FREEDOM OF A CITY.

(Query No. 3,974, July 25.)

[3,990.] Permit me to state what I know of the freemen of North Lancashire, which may enable your correspondent to understand what is meant by the "freedom of the city." All freemen in cities and boroughs have been created by royal charter, and their privileges and advantages are as various and numerous as the places that have received the grant. The freemen of Lancaster had the sole power of voting for the two members of Parliament who sat for

the borough previous to the passing of the Ten Pound Household Act. This Act in no way interfered with their right as voters. They were also freed from paying certain market tolls levied by the Corporation. Amongst other advantages a fixed number of the oldest freemen are the recipients of rents from land. This freedom of the town, as it is called, cannot be purchased or given, as it is in London. It comes by descent from father to son on attaining the age of twenty-one years. All the sons of a freeman are entitled to it. It may be obtained by any youth who serves an apprenticeship of seven years to a craftsman who is himself a freeman. Much more might be said about this ancient body of men, but I confine myself as near as I can to the question asked.

J. HAWTHORNTHWAITHE.

QUERIES.

[3,991.] CYCLING ROUTES TO LONDON.—As I purpose doing my holidays on wheels, with camera at my back, I shall be glad of information from any of your cycling readers respecting the route from Manchester to London:—(1) The most picturesque route; (2) The most direct route; (3) The easiest route for a sociable with lady and gentleman.

W. S.

[3,992.] ADOINES.—What is the origin of the Christian name Adoinés, feminine, often seen on tombstones in the Midland Counties, and pronounced Adonius? I think it may be a corruption of Adonis, masculine, and that the feminine Adoinés should be spelt as pronounced Adonius; but, if so, can any reader suggest how the corruption came about?

N. H. P.

[3,993.] THE KYNASTONS OF SHROPSHIRE: HENRY HOWARD.—Can any reader give me any particulars of the Kynaston family of Shropshire, and particularly of that Sir F. Kynaston who wrote a rhyming Latin translation of Chaucer's *Troilus and Creseid*, the MSS. of which is now in my possession, and from which I gather that he was Esquire of the Body to Charles I.? I believe he died in 1642. I should also be glad of any particulars of the life of Henry Howarde, a younger son of the celebrated Earl of Surrey. He wrote a *Defence of the Regiment of Women* (which was never published) in order to get into the good graces of Queen Elizabeth. Sir F. Kynaston quotes the following Lancashire proverb,

the meaning and origin of which I should be glad to learn :—

He that will fish for a Lancashire lad,
At any time or tide,
He must bait his hook with a good egge-pie,
Or an apple with a red side.

J. F. TATTERSALL.

London.

[3,994.] **THE MERSEY HOTEL AND FERRY AT WIDNES.**—Can any reader give an account of the Mersey Hotel at Widnes, a noted old house which stands upon the Lancashire side of the Mersey, opposite Runcorn on the Cheshire side? The hotel commands a fine view of that masterpiece of engineering skill, the lattice-girder bridge spanning the river and connecting the important towns of Widnes and Runcorn by means of railway and footbridge, which was designed and built by Mr. Baker, engineer to the London and North-Western Railway Company some nineteen years ago. I have been staying here a fortnight, and have asked the proprietor, Mr. Robert Harrison, for an account of the place, but he says he has only been occupying the house for a very short time and is only able to give what little folk-lore he has picked up since he came here. He says the place has been built for over a hundred years, and is commonly known as the Snig-pie House, or the Ferry House. Of course before the bridge was constructed the only means available for crossing the river at this point was by boats, and as these ferry boats must have been used from very ancient times many episodes and eventful periods must have passed since the old house was built for the accommodation of travellers or of those pursued by the upholders of law and order. Any account of this ancient crossing place would have great interest, especially now that the great Ship Canal Bill has passed, the course of which will inevitably pass over and perhaps wipe out of remembrance an ancient way.

THOMAS H. LOWE.

AMBER.—In the Mark Museum at Dantzic, there is a piece of amber weighing eight pounds, for which the owner has refused £1,500. It is probably the largest piece in the world without blemish. Frederick the Great, more than a century ago, paid the same sum for a piece weighing thirteen pounds, which is preserved in the mineralogical museum at Berlin, but it has gaps and cavities. Two beautiful pieces of work in amber are also to be seen in Berlin. One is a flute, which also was an acquisition of Frederick the Great. The other is a complete tobacco-pipe, belonging to Frederic William III., the father of the present Emperor; it bears an admirably carved likeness of that monarch.

Saturday, August 22, 1885.

NOTES.

ANOTHER MEMENTO OF PETERLOO.

[3,995.] Anyone standing on the flags opposite the door of No. 17, Fleet-street, Deansgate, may observe a notch on the right-hand door-post, about sixteen inches below the lintel. On the day of Peterloo three or four of the Troopers were rushing down the street in mad fury brandishing their swords on high, cutting and slashing right and left. One of them aimed a blow at a man who was entering this doorway at the time, but did no harm save cutting a very small strip of wood, the indent of which remains as proof of his valour as a soldier and skill as a swordsman, to be remembered and related of him sixty-seven years afterwards.

JAMES HAWTHORNTHWAITHE.

Levenshulme.

CLOCK ALLEY.

[3,996.] As Clock Alley, off Corporation-street, Manchester, is about to be demolished, a brief account of it may not be uninteresting. Though it is now only remarkable for its general neglect, dirty appearance, and the drunken habits of some of its inhabitants, it was, a century ago, as remarkable for a tenantry of an opposite description, though then consisting of the same classes as at present, weavers, fustian cutters, and the like. Indeed, many of the present old tenants were born in the houses they occupy. At the period spoken of the rent of these tenements was only £5 per annum, but now the same houses, though despoiled of their little gardens, have been advanced to £16 or £17 per annum. The name of the Alley had its origin from the circumstance that almost every inhabitant of the place was then in possession of one of those useful, though now considered old-fashioned, appendages, in a house, an eight-day clock, which being at that time rather an expensive as well as elegant ornament, occupied a conspicuous place in the principal apartment of each house. Tradition says that the landlady of the Alley kept a pawnshop on the site of the Bible Society Depot, at the corner of Halliwell-street and Corporation-street, and that whenever a tenant ran in arrear with the rent, she was to be seen walking away with the indispensable clock on her back, for which she gave a ticket in exchange until the arrears were paid. The clocks of the old tenants have all disappeared

whether in this way or not I cannot say; but there seems to be some sort of fatality about the place, for some of the newer tenants have imported the same class of clocks.

One noteworthy fact—which I recommend to the notice of those engaged in promoting the health of the city—is the extreme old age of some of the inhabitants. One lately died within a few months of 100 who had lived in the Alley all her life; another, who met with an accident which caused his death last Christmas, aged over eighty-two, had lived fifty years in the Alley. Three more are over seventy, and four more over sixty. These have lived in the place all their lives, or nearly so. These are heads of families, taken out of the twenty-six which the Alley contains, some of the latter, of course, being new-comers. Sickness is scarcely ever heard of. How is this to be explained? Is it the close proximity to the city?

FRED. LEARY.

Ardwick.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HENRY HOWARD.

(Query No. 3,998, August 15.)

[3,997.] The Earl of Surrey had two sons by his marriage with Lady Francis Vere—(1) Thomas, afterwards Duke of Norfolk; (2) Henry, afterwards Earl of Northampton. The latter was born in 1539. It was the younger of these two who removed his father's remains after they had been interred in All Hallow's Church to Framlingham, Suffolk, where he erected a monument to him. Perhaps this may be of some use to your correspondent, Mr. Tattersall.

E. PARTINGTON.

HUMPHREY BOOTH'S RESIDENCE.

(Nos. 3,979 and 3,989.)

[3,998.] Some years ago, being in Greengate, Salford, I turned into a passage which lay on my right, at a short distance from the end of Chapel-street. This passage led me into a court, in which I saw an old half-timbered building occupying, I think, two sides of the court. The timbers were good and rather massive in their proportions, and seemingly of the early part of the seventeenth century. I have now no idea of the extent of the building, but what I saw had probably been the inner court of a substantial mansion. One of the inhabitants seeing me gazing around came to me, and informed me the place had been the residence of Humphrey Booth.

Not having taken Captain Cuttle's advice I can say little about it. I have not seen it since, and I rather think it has been swept away by the railway extensions. I recollect, also, seeing attached to the above building a curious brick chimney, having a spiral band or course of bricks running round it. About 1825 I remember that on the opposite side of Greengate there were some old half-timbered cottages, whose gables were ornamented with carved barge boards, no doubt belonging to the time of Elizabeth. These were removed when the railway was carried over the street.

J. OWEN.

CYCLING ROUTES TO LONDON.

(Query No. 3,991, August 15.)

[3,999.] (1.) One of the most picturesque routes is by Stockport, Buxton, Bakewell, Matlock, Derby, Burton, Lichfield, Tamworth, Atherstone, Nuneaton, Coventry, Kenilworth, Warwick, Stratford, Shipston, Woodstock, Oxford, Abingdon, Wallingford, Reading, Henley, Marlow, Maidenhead, and Slough (which place is close to Burnham, Stoke Pogis, and Windsor).

(2.) One of the most direct routes is by Stockport, Macclesfield, Leek, Ashbourne, Derby, Loughborough, Leicester, Market Harborough, Northampton, Newport Pagnel, Woburn, Dunstable, St. Albans, and Barnet.

(3.) One of the easiest routes is by Northwich, Middlewich, Nantwich, Eccleshall, Stafford, Rugeley, Lichfield, Tamworth, Atherstone, Nuneaton, Coventry, Southam, Banbury, Bicester, Aylesbury, Tring, Berkhamstead, and Watford.

I give these three routes as favourable specimens of their particular classes; for, of course, where there are fifty ways to a place, no one can say dogmatically which is the most picturesque or the easiest. The first route includes the best things between here and London, namely, Derbyshire, Warwickshire, Oxford, and the Thames valley. The second route does happen to be absolutely the most direct, and is besides interesting; and, once past Ashbourne, easy and fast. As to the third route, once south by Derbyshire and the Potteries (which the way given misses), if the rider only avoids the Black Country, all the roads through the Midland Counties are good; there is very little difference in point of ease, and the cyclist has unlimited choice. From Coventry by Daventry, and Northampton to Bedford, from whence there is a splendid road to London by Shefford, Hitchin, Hatfield, and Barnet; and from Coventry by Daventry,

Weedon, and Towcester to Buckingham; or from Banbury by Brackley to the same place; and then on by Wilslow, Aylesbury, and Wendover to Amersham, which is a beautiful ride, and from whence there are two roads to London, are perhaps the best variations, though, of course, there are numberless others.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

QUERIES.

[4,000.] **THE DIS-ESTABLISHED IRISH CHURCH.** What is the capital account of the funds of the dis-established Irish Church and the annual amount of the interest thereon?

W. MULLINER.

[4,001.] **MRS. SUNDERLAND.**—Can any musical correspondent give particulars respecting Mrs. Sunderland, a Manchester favourite of some thirty years ago? I believe she is living yet at Brigg, in Lincolnshire.

G. F. BRINDLE.

[4,002.] **GRAVE AND INSCRIPTION IN MR. R. N. PHILIPS'S GROUNDS.**—In the grounds of Mr. R. N. Philips, M.P., near Bury, is to be seen a pedestal surmounted by a stone urn, and underneath the following inscription:—" | Sororibus, dulcis. innis | funere præmature | ereptis | Sorres superat | P.C. | Varete." A translation of the above, and any information respecting the person or subject to whom it refers, would be acceptable.

T. A. M.

THE MANX SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS.—The Rev. T. Talbot, of Douglas, has just completed in the *Manx* an exhaustive examination of the traditional story of the Duchess of Gloucester's imprisonment in Peel Castle, the baselessness of which has already been demonstrated in these columns by "Harropdale." Mr. Talbot closes his letters with a severe condemnation of the Publications of the Manx Society. He says:—More than five years ago I brought the Manx Society practically to an end by asserting in its annual meeting that the last volume it had published, called *Church Notes*, by Mr. Harrison, was "stuffed with inventions," and denounced its issue as "a swindle upon the subscribers." The end did not come a day sooner than necessary. Other members in previous years in regard to other volumes had cried "stuff," "rubbish," "trash," and retired. But to myself the honour belongs of putting a stop to the society's continued infamous impositions on the ignorant and credulous. As far as regards any working out of the truth of the past history of this island, it would have been better that the society had never had an existence. It proved itself in that respect to be a disgrace to the island, and was a by-word among literary men beyond our shores.

Saturday, August 29, 1885.

NOTES.

[4,003.]

LOVELY KATE.

Tune—"The Quaker's Wife."
Thine am I, my faithful Fair,
Well thou may'st discover,
Ev'ry pulse along my veins,
Tell the ardent Lover!

To thy bosom take my heart,
'There to throb and languish;
Tho' despair had wrung its core,
That would heal its anguish.

Take away those rosy lips,
Rich with balmy treasure!
Turn away thine eyes of love,
Lest I die with pleasure!

What is life when wanting love?
Night without a morning!
Love's the cloudless summer sun,
Nature gay adorning.

ROBERT BURNS.

The manuscript of this song (in the reference library of the City of Liverpool) is in the autograph of the Poet Robert Burns. It has been altered from his song called "My lovely Nancy," which he forwarded in the spring of 1791 to Mrs. Agnes (Nancy) McLehose under the nom-de-plume of "Sylvander." The erased words are distinctly readable in the manuscript, showing that "Lovely Kate" (Miss Katherine Jaffray) was probably written after 1791.

NATHAN HEYWOOD.

3, Mount-street, Manchester.

THE FIRST MANCHESTER DAILY PAPER.

[4,004.] In an early volume of the *City News* Notes and Queries the *War Express* (1854) is stated to be the first daily newspaper established in Manchester. This is an error. Manchester can claim the first daily established out of London, viz., *The Mercantile Gazette and Liverpool and Manchester Daily Advertiser*, first issued August 6, 1803. It originated with Dr. Solomon, the patentee of the well-known medicine Balm of Gilead.

FRED LEARY.

Ardwick.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MRS. SUNDERLAND.

(Query No. 4,001, August 22.)

[4,005.] Mrs. Sunderland does not, nor did she ever, live at Brigg, in Lincolnshire; but is now living where she has lived for at least forty years, at Brigg-house, in Yorkshire, and I am glad to say she is very well.

T. BEAUMONT.

Heaton Chapel.

THE PETERLOO MEMENTO IN DEANS GATE.

(Note No. 3,995, August 14.)

[4,006.] I can vouch for the accuracy of Mr. HAWTHORNTHWAITHE's statement. I had my finger in the notch ten days ago. The trooper was one of the Yeomanry Cavalry, and the man the blow was aimed at was my grandfather, as he stood at his door.

GEORGE WILDE.

Great Bridgewater-street.

THE KYNASTONS OF SHROPSHIRE.

(Query No. 3,993, August 15.)

[4,007.] A good account of the Kynastons of Shropshire appears in Hulbert's *History of Shropshire*. It is said there were Kynastons in that district in the very earliest times. The family had several residences in Shropshire. The oldest family lived at Middle, a small place a few miles from Shrewsbury; then at Hordley, a little village near Oswestry and Ellesmere. Hordley Church is six hundred years old. Hordley Hall was in ruins a few years back. The modern residence is Hardwick, near Ellesmere. A curate of the Church of England of the name of Owen has been so fortunate as to get the estate on the female line, and has taken the Kynaston name. Another branch of the Kynastons lives at Otely Hall, at Ellesmere Lake. Mainwarings have lived there over fifty years, and also taken the Kynaston name. There are two stone monuments and a beautifully stained glass window in commemoration of the Kynastons, they having had to do with the building and endowments of Welshampton and Ellesmere Churches. Humphrey Kynaston, son of Sir Roger of Hordley, was a wild young man, and was outlawed by the sheriff. He lived at Nesscliff Wood, in a cave in the rocks. The Kynastons have furnished many members of Parliament and sheriffs for the county of Shropshire.

T. KINASTON.

Charlotte-street, Waterloo Road, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[4,008.] TENNYSONIANA.—I should be obliged for an explanation of the allusions made by Tennyson in his *Idylls of the King*:—

Or him

Of Geoffrey's book, or him of Malleor's.

J. C.

A GRAVE AND ROSE GARDEN.—One Edward Rose, a citizen of London, who died in 1853, bequeathed £20 for the purchase of a piece of land, wherewith to provide his grave in Barnes churchyard, Surrey, with a constant succession of rose trees. He insured the fulfilment of his trust by devoting the surplus profits to the poor of the parish, and after the lapse of more than two centuries his grave is still a rose-garden.

PRESERVATION OF ALPINE PLANTS.—An association for the protection of plants has been started at Geneva; the object is to preserve Alpine rarities from the extermination with which the annually increasing number of botanists, mercenary collectors, and mountaineering tourists generally is said to menace them. The projectors of the association announce that they are going to cultivate the flowers of the Alps in nurseries, and sell them at such low rates that it will not be worth anyone's while to dig up the wild plants.

WOMEN ON WHEELS.—Four years ago a woman on wheels was a rare and conspicuous sight; but to-day there are few parts of England—perhaps, I may say, of the United Kingdom—where a tricycling maid or matron excites any wonder in the mind of the spectator. Certainly no more delightful means of locomotion was ever placed within my sex's reach. Women are seldom good walkers; their duties and pursuits confine them far more within doors than do those of men, and even those who are most ardent over tennis or archery, think, as a rule, that they have rather achieved a deed of prowess when they have taken a ten-mile walk. But the tricycle gives them at once a means of wandering far afield; of exploring forest glades and heathery moorlands; of finding close to their own familiar haunts beauties hitherto undreamed of, which, without such aid, they would never have been able to discover. We have slowly grown to realize that, in these days of over-brain-work and over-civilization, no medicine but fresh air can calm the restless pulse and soothe the fevered mind, and the tricycle offers to women that panacea for over-wrought nerves and tried tempers. "Why not ride instead?" asks someone. Certainly almost all that can be said in praise of the tricycle applies equally to the horse; but while thousands may enjoy the former, the latter is within the reach of the rich alone. And it is particularly to the women of the middle class that I wish to recommend the use of the tricycle; that class which suffers most from what we have grown to call the "little health of women;" the class whose lives are the busiest, and whose minds the most heavily taxed, and who, just in proportion to that taxation and that business, need some relaxation which shall offer them the most complete change and rest from their ordinary occupations.—*A Lady Cyclist in Cassell's Family Magazine.*

Saturday September 5, 1885.

NOTES.

SOME REMINISCENCES OF THE MANCHESTER CHESS CLUB.

[4,009.] The papers this week have announced the death of a veteran chess player. Horwitz died very suddenly. To many in Manchester this announcement will recall the familiar figure of poor old Horwitz as he used to plod along the streets, generally with a picture under his arm, looking careworn, anxious, and time-stricken, though always amiable. Rest his simple soul! He was an artist as well as a chess player; but neither vocation appeared very profitable. A chess player never makes money, and there are many artists who are always poor; Horwitz was one of them. During several years he was resident in Manchester, and his careworn looks and threadbare suit attested that times were hard with him and life a struggle. Sometimes he sold a picture (for though not a Millais he could paint fairly well), and this would help him on. You could always tell when he had made a sale, for he would sit down to the chess board radiant with cheerfulness, and solve a problem or analyze an opening so rapidly yet so thoroughly that it was difficult to keep pace with him.

When the chess club after many migrations was held at Bakewell's, in St. Mary's Gate, Horwitz was a regular attendant in an afternoon, pipe in mouth, always ready for a game. Now he has gone. So have many who used to make the hours pass pleasantly at the Manchester Chess Club. There was Bateson Wood, the chairman, so genial and so cheerful; Duval, the artist, full of brilliant play and cultivated talent; Max Kyllmann, whose dashing style distinguished him as the Hotspur of chess; Kipping, whose sound and careful moves made him most difficult to beat; Pindar, who always adjusted his glasses and his pieces with equal precision, and with the assistance of both generally secured victory in the mimic warfare. Blackburne was there also, not so steady at a single game, but ever ready to perform the miraculous feat of playing eleven games at once without looking at the boards. Seated in a chair with his back to the players, his gaze was fixed upon a blank wall, but the position on each board came up in his mind as he returned to answer his antagonists' move

one after the other up to the eleventh. He usually won the majority, and became so infatuated with the royal game that he gave up his situation and devoted himself to it, only to prove, as many others have done, how difficult it is to make a living out of chess. There were many others, in those days—pleasant, clever fellows, who made the club a very seductive and dangerous place, because they made it so pleasant; it was most difficult to get away if once you entered.

Horwitz published a massive book on chess, I believe jointly with Löwenthal, full of elaborate analysis and intricate positions, making the student wonder how many thousand combinations might arise following on King's pawn two. Horwitz was not so strong over the board, for in one of the tournaments at the club, he lost his game to J. A. Birch, who played Queen's gambit, took the attack, and never relaxed his pursuit until the finish. The game was published in the *Illustrated London News*. But in study Horwitz was most ingenious and untiring. During his stay in Manchester many distinguished players visited the club. Andersen, Horwitz, Löwenthal, Staunton, and the young American, Paul Morphy. A curious incident occurred whilst Morphy was playing eleven blindfold games. When he came, about the middle of the game, to one of the boards, his opponent called his move, and Morphy immediately replied by calling his move, and was preparing to pass on to the next board, when the player called out, "You cannot do that, Mr. Morphy; there is a pawn in the way." "Oh! no," replied Morphy, "I am sure I am right;" and he at once went over the moves on each side at that board from the beginning, when it was found that one of the bystanders (the room being very crowded) had accidentally moved the intercepting pawn with his coat.

Horwitz became so reduced in circumstances that his friends (he had no enemies), subscribed to help him to London, where he anticipated more prosperous days and where he ended his career. Gentle, genial, innocent companion. would that there were more like him! Let him not depart unnoticed, although a poor chronicler has taken up the pen. B.

We may supplement our correspondent's kindly sketch of Horwitz with the following notes by a contributor of the *Daily News*:—

Horwitz in his later years devoted the greater part of his attention to the study of end games, towards the

elucidation of which he did more than all his predecessors and contemporaries put together. The results of his earlier researches in this direction were published in 1851; his more recent discoveries appeared from time to time in the *Chess Monthly*, and were reprinted about two years ago as a substantial volume. The venerable figure of Herr Horwitz was very familiar to all frequenters of the Divan, and other haunts of chess players in London. The master loved to saunter from one board to another, letting fall humorous remarks concerning the play of his friends, or making mental notes of interesting positions. To amateurs in search of counsel he was uniformly kind and helpful, and many masters of a younger generation owe him a large debt of gratitude. Like the majority of great players, he was full of characteristic peculiarities. Staunton, when deep in a game, used to sit in gloomy silence, with his hands folded before him on the table; Boden habitually muttered to himself, and closed each period of his soliloquy with a short laugh; and Steinitz leans over the board so as to almost conceal his pieces, and at the crisis of his attack hums a melancholy air; but Horwitz was always a cheerful opponent. After driving an adversary's piece into a corner, he would commonly exclaim with triumph, "Brandy can't save it!" and he had at his tongue's tip literary quotations from English and German authors that fitted almost every incident of a well-fought game. Herr Horwitz, who was of Hebrew parentage, in addition to his ability as a chess player, had no small skill as an artist, and many of his landscapes in water-colours have, in past years, been exhibited in London. He died suddenly in his seventy-eighth year.

QUERIES.

[4,010.] HEIGHTS ABOVE SEA-LEVEL.—Can any one oblige me with the height above sea-level of the base of the Queen's Hotel, Manchester; and of St. Margaret's Church, Bowdon? J. W. S.

[4,011.] MANCHESTER BY ROAD TO BLACKPOOL AND SOUTHPORT.—What is the best and most interesting route to Blackpool by the highway; also the route from Southport to Manchester, via Scarisbrick? PED.

[4,012.] DR. SOLOMON AND HIS BALM OF GILEAD. Can any reader say who this gentleman was; whether he held any medical degree, and whether he was at any time resident in Manchester? I understand that he had relatives living in Manchester some little time ago. What was the Balm of Gilead—I mean what were its component parts? I believe Dr. Solomon prepared it himself, and made a large sum of money by its sale. PI.

[4,013.] DUKE'S AND CHURCH FIELDS AND ROBBERS' CAVE.—The following is an extract from a diary lately come into my possession:—"I walked through the Duke's and Church fields. The crocuses

were just peeping through the ground. Continuing, I arrived at the Robbers' Cave and the Fisherman's Rock." Where were the places mentioned situated? The time would be about thirty-five years ago, and from other remarks I should take the locality to be about Hulme. J. ROYLE.

[4,014.] HOUGH END HALL.—What is the past history of Hough End Hall, near Chorlton-cum-Hardy, and its previous occupiers? Also, has part of the Hall been pulled down, and was the cavity at the end nearest the shippons formerly a fireplace or an entrance to the Hall? R. D'A. W.

[Hough End Hall and its history have already been the subject of communications in these columns. See Notes and Queries for March, 1879, or consult the second volume of the reprint. The last question in the above inquiry, however, has not been put before.—ED.]

[4,015.] OLD STONE PATHWAYS IN THE NORTH RIDING.—In some parts of the North Riding of Yorkshire there are narrow paths of small flag stones laid side by side, and only broad enough for one person to walk on, connecting the towns and villages with each other. Can any one inform me what was the object of these long stone tracks? They are evidently of great antiquity, from the fact of their being so much worn and in many places broken up and disordered. In the district round Whitby I have heard it said that these paths were for the guidance and assistance of the monks in their journeys, and in one place at least such a path is called the "Monk's Walk." Is there any foundation for this theory? And are there any other instances where an abbey is connected with its priories and granges by this means? Again, I have heard that they were the creation of a later period, and were made for the use of pack-horses. This, however, would seem to be very unlikely, since a horse would so easily slip on such a pavement. SUB TUMULO.

A MONKEY-PUZZLE IN BLOOM.—A highly interesting sight in the botanical world is to be witnessed in the grounds of Steephill Castle, Ventnor, where a large tree of the *araucaria imbricata* species, familiarly known as the monkey-puzzle, is in full bloom, an occurrence exceedingly rare in this country. The tree, which is about forty feet high, contains nearly forty cones of fruit. These cones are twice the size of ordinary coconuts, and the exhibition of one of them on Saturday at a local flower show excited great interest, neither gardeners nor other visitors having ever heard of the tree blooming in England.

Saturday, September 12, 1885.

NOTES.

HANGING DITCH.

[4,016.] I have seen many queries in this column as to the origin of the name "Hanging Ditch" being given to the street of that name in the city, but I have not yet seen any satisfactory reply. I think, however, that the following extract puts the reason for so naming the street quite beyond doubt. The extract is taken from Whitaker's *History of Manchester* (London, 1775), vol. ii., p. 105, where I find the following:—

In the line of the road to Ribchester was an old approach to the Camp [i.e. the Roman camp which was near where the Cathedral now stands] on its arrival there guarded by a military gateway. And the present would be on the same point, and equally as before by a bridge of light timber across the ditch. This was before probably, and certainly was now, drawn up, generally for the security of the mansion; and therefore attracted to itself the appellation of the Hanging Bridge, and communicated to the fosse the abbreviated denomination of the Hanging Ditch. The former name is still retained by the bridge of stone which has been erected in the room of the other. And the latter adheres to a street that has been constructed along the course of the fosse.

At page 404 of vol. ii. there is a map of Manchester in 627, which shows exactly the position of the hanging bridge over the ditch. SUB TUMULO.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER TO BLACKPOOL BY ROAD.

(Query No. 4,011, September 5.)

[4,017.] Your correspondent who desires to go to Blackpool on foot may make it a pleasant excursion provided he is in the enjoyment of tolerable health and strength. I performed the journey some time ago, and found myself benefited by it. The distance by the shortest way from Manchester is forty-nine miles, which distance I divided into stages for refreshments as follows:—Manchester through Pendlebury to Bolton, eleven miles; thence to Chorley, eleven miles; then Preston, nine miles; Kirkham, nine miles further; after which Blackpool is reached by another nine miles. As, however, the route to Bolton is through a manufacturing and colliery district, and possessing no other feature, I would recommend him to take the rail to that town, and then proceed on foot. If he is of an antiquarian or artistic

disposition, many subjects of interest will occur on the way, including the Liverpool waterworks, lying at the base of Rivington Pike, a hill 1,200 feet high, and forming, with other associations, the subject of one of Roby's *Lancashire Legends*, Hoghton Tower, glimpses of the sea beyond Chorley, and the calm rural Fylde country beyond Preston. He should get a map. I have an excellent one, published in 1823 in Liverpool; and next to that Phillips's cyclist map of Lancashire is good, as showing the highways coloured and prominent. I performed the journey leisurely in two days.

R. H.

Cheetham Hill.

CLOCK ALLEY.

(Note No. 8,996, August 22.)

[4,018.] Whilst the demolition of this place is in progress, it may be well to note the reference to it by the late Mr. R. W. Procter. On page 275 of *Memorials of Manchester Streets*, he says:—

Mr. John Stanley Gregson, in his book on Manchester Men and Manners, states that a little place called Clock Alley, near Withy Grove, received its name in a singular manner. We are enabled to verify his statement, having ever since our boyhood dwelt in that neighbourhood, and many books have passed from our store to its older residents. Though now wearing a neglected appearance, this alley was remarkable, towards the close of the last century, and later, for a tenantry of a superior yet working-class character. Chiefly fustian cutters and weavers, they managed, by prudent attention, to furnish their homes with comfort and taste. Although their wages were not high, rent and taxes were low, while their little gardens added pleasantly to their store. Further, they were reasonably content with their true position, never sacrificing the substance for the shadow in vain efforts to keep pace with fashion. Nearly every house possessed as its most useful, prizable ornament, an eight-day clock—hence the name of Clock Alley.

The rural aspect of the neighbourhood, as it formerly existed, may be inferred from the names of the streets by which it is surrounded—namely, Balloon-street, Garden-street, Cock Gates (Mark Lane), and Toad Lane (now called Todd-street). Balloon-street was so called from the fact of balloon ascents having taken place from this spot, which was then a field into which ran the gardens attached to the cottages forming Clock Alley.

JOHN MELLOR.

Newtown.

DR. SOLOMON AND HIS BALM OF GILEAD.

(Query No. 4,012, September 5.)

[4,019.] Dr. S. Solomon was a rather notorious Liverpool quack in the early part of this century. There is a short notice of his life in *The Medical*

Adviser and Guide to Health and Long Life, edited by Alexander Burnet. II., 237. London, 1825. A copy of his book, *A Guide to Health; or, Advice to Both Sexes*, fifty-fourth edition, is in the library of the Manchester Medical Society. Neither place nor date of publication is stated on the title-page; but the preface is dated from Solomon's Place, Liverpool. A portrait of the author faces the title. T. W.

* * *

Dr. Solomon was an M.D. of the University and College of Physicians of Aberdeen. I cannot say whether he ever practised in Manchester, but in 1796 he practised in Liverpool, his residence in that year being No. 12, Marylebone. Dr. Solomon's advertisements stated that his Balm of Gilead could not be prepared under nine weeks, and was composed of "the real pure essence of virgin gold, together with the choicest natural balsams of the whole *Materia Medica*." It had a large sale, and was supposed to be a cure for most of the ills that human flesh is heir to.

J. PRYOR.

* * *

In a stray volume of the *Medical Adviser*, published in 1824, "Dr." Solomon is said to be then living and carrying on a successful business in his peculiar line in Liverpool, having previously resided in Birmingham, in which place he emerged from the humble position of hawking rollers for perukes. He did not, when mentioned by the *Adviser*, hold a degree. Further volumes of the *Medical Adviser*, edited by Burnett, might afford more information on this subject. The work is sometimes met with at old book-stalls.

R. H.

* * *

Dr. Solomon's Balm of Gilead was a very largely-selling patent medicine more than half a century ago. It was sold in bottles 11s. each, and in what were termed family bottles at 33s. each. I believe Dr. Solomon made a large fortune by it, by means of which, if my memory serves me correctly, he built a large mansion near Liverpool, which he termed Gilead House, a woodcut of which was impressed on the wrappers of the bottles. I have heard that before his death Dr. Solomon gave instructions that after his decease the advertisements which he was constantly sending to different newspapers were to be continued, especially naming the journals to be used. These instructions were, I have heard, not attended to, and possibly in consequence the sale did not keep up.

A LONDON READER OF THE CITY NEWS. DUKE'S AND CHURCH FIELDS AND ROBBERS' CAVE.

(Query No. 4,013, September 5.)

[4,020.] The Fisherman's Rock is on that side of the river Irwell and adjacent to the site of old Hulme Hall. There was a tunnel leading from the Hall to the water's edge for the purpose of enabling the occupants to enter a boat on the river. For several years after the old Hall had been pulled down a portion of this "cave" (or tunnel) was left standing, and was known to the lads in the neighbourhood as the "Robbers' Cave;" but why it should be so designated I am at a loss to know, unless it was from its lonely situation. My parents were the last tenants of Hulme Hall, which was pulled down in 1842. About the time referred to (thirty-five years ago) I should be eight years of age, and the "Cave" used to be a favourite resort for myself and companions. As I have not resided in the neighbourhood of Hulme for the last thirty years, I am unable to remember the other places named, but I think Church Fields were those adjacent to St. George's Church, Chester Road.

JOHN ROYLE.

Victoria-street, Oldham.

* * *

The Duke's and Church Fields lay between the Duke of Bridgewater's warehouses, Castlefield, and Hulme Hall Lane, bounded on the other sides by Chester Road and the Bridgewater Canal. Egerton-street (now Dawson-street) divided them. Duke's Field, no doubt, obtained its name from the wharves and warehouses of the canal, which ran alongside of it. Church Field derived its name from St. George's Church, the only building at that time upon it. If I am not mistaken, Mr. Leo Grindon has a note somewhere—to say that this was the last place in which he saw the double crocus in this district. These fields are now covered with dwelling-houses and mills. Leaving Church Field and turning down Hulme Hall Lane, we cross the canal bridge and reach the site of old Hulme Hall near the banks of the Irwell. Here stood, at the time named, a large brick arch or cave, evidently the remains of an arched cellar. This was called the Robber's Cave. About this time the Manchester and Salford Regattas were in full swing; the Princess, Shakspeare, Ellesmere, and Belphegor crews were fighting their battles over the Irwell;

and we were able to send a crew to London and take the championship of the Thames, against the crack crews of London and Newcastle. The Irwell course was from Throstle Nest to Regent Road Bridge and back. At the junction of the Irwell and the Mersey, near the Robber's Cave stood the Princess' Boat House, and here cannons were fired to announce to those at Throstle Nest which boat had turned the buoy first, the boats being numbered from the Salford side. This, together with the capital view which was obtained of the boats up to the turning point, and a portion of the way back, drew a goodly number of people to the site of the old Hall, and at these times an enterprising publican utilized the Robber's Cave as a refreshment booth. Many were the boyish legends connected with it. The Hall was the scene of Mr. Harrison Ainsworth's first romance, *Sir John Chiverton*. Close to the Cave on the banks of the river was the Fisherman's Rock, down which a number of steps led to a ferry. Across the river stood Ordsall Clough, in which there was another cave, and near to stood Ordsall Hall. Ordsall Clough was the locality of a scene in Mr. Ainsworth's *Guy Faux*.

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

FRED LEARY.

HEIGHTS ABOVE SEA-LEVEL.

(Query No. 4,020, September 5.)

[4,021.] I cannot answer the precise inquiry made by "J. W. S.," but I find in my scrap-book the following cutting from the *Manchester City News* of April 5, 1873, which will perhaps partially serve the querist's purpose, and at the same time be useful information to many people. It is a list giving the height above sea-level of the undermentioned places:

	Feet.		Feet.
Ashton	340	Newton Heath.....	280
Broughton Lane.....	89	Oldham	600 and 843
Broughton, Lower	91	Oldham - street, Man-	
Broughton, Higher.....	185	chester (top of)	161
Cheetham Hill	250	Peel Park	80
Chorlton-cum-Hardy...	70	Pendleton	156
Davyhulme	50	Philip's Park	170
Denton	300	Piccadilly	147
Didsbury.....	100 and 119	Queen's Park	236
Droylsden	300	Reddish Hall	260
Elizabeth-st.(corner of)	180	Rusholme	134
Fairfield	300	Stalybridge.....	367 and 485
Flixton	66	Stockport.....	134
Harpurhey	235	Stockport Reservoir ...	139
Heaton Chapel (Haw-		Stockport (St. Thomas's	
thorn Grove)	233	Church).....	256
Heaton Mersey	156	Stretford	87
Heaton Norris (Christ		Urmston	68
Church)	250	Victoria Park	150
Kersal (old racecourse)	100	Waterloo Rd.(corner of)	182
Levenshulme	179	Withington	115
Longsight	150 and 168	Worsley.....	98 and 136
Middleton	262 and 355		

Where two figures are given it is understood that they refer to the lowest and highest points of the places named. "J. W. S." may take Piccadilly—147 feet above sea-level—as giving the information about the Queen's Hotel. Perhaps some one else can add the figures for the base of St. Margaret's Church, Bowdon.

ION.

HENRY HOWARD.

(Nos. 3,993 and 3,997.)

[4,022.] I can now supply your correspondent Mr. J. F. TATTERSALL with additional particulars concerning Henry Howard.

As I said in my former answer, he was the younger son of the celebrated Earl of Surrey by his marriage with Lady Francis Vere. He was born at Shottisham, Norfolk, in 1539, and educated at King's College, London, and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. On leaving the University he travelled for some time, and became acquainted with many of the celebrities of the day. From the fickle Queen he received little encouragement or favour of any kind, and what she did for him was only at the request of her favourite, Earl Essex, who was a friend of Howard's. She seems to have looked with distrust on him. Her successor, however, made amends, as on his accession he summoned him to the Privy Council and created him Baron Howard of Mainhill and Earl of Northampton. King James made him also Lord Privy Seal (April 29, 1608), Warden of the Cinque Ports, Constable of Dover Castle, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, High Steward of the University of Oxford, and Knight of the Garter (1605).

According to Bishop Godwin he was the "learnedest man among the nobility, and the most noble among the learned;" and Bacon speaks of him as the "learnedest Counsellor in the Kingdom." He was generally considered, however, a man whose conduct, whilst in office, was unimpeachable, but whose treachery to his own friends was well known. He died at the residence erected by himself, Northumberland House, Charing Cross, June 15, 1614, and was buried in Dover church. He was unmarried. In 1583 he published *A Defensative against the Poyson of Supposed Prophecy*. Of his unpublished works there are two treatises to justify "Woman's Government," one of which is in the Bodleian Library and the other was in the Harleian Collection. It is probably one of these Mr. TATTERSALL mentions.

The Earl founded three hospitals, one at Greenwich, one at Clare, and a third at Castlerising, in Norfolk. He will be remembered as one of the three

supposed to have poisoned Sir Thomas Overbury. The assertion, however, rests on very weak evidence, and no suspicions were aroused during his lifetime. For further particulars, if needed, I refer Mr. Tattersall to *Winwood's Memorials, Great Oyer of Poisoning* (London, 1846), and Lodge's *Portraits*.

E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam, Rusholme.

QUERIES.

[4,023.] **ARDWICK HALL.**—What is the history of Ardwick Hall, and who has occupied it? B. S.

[4,024.] **SCROWESHILL.**—In the will of Ann Bate, of Lady Bridge, within the parish of "Chedle," dated August 1st, 1590, she appoints William Bate and William Bancrofte, of Scroweshill, her executors. What is the meaning of Scroweshill, and is it what is now called School's Hill? J. OWEN.

[4,025.] **AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.**—In the *Manchester Friend* for March or April, 1873, there appeared some fine lines entitled "Gather ye Roses while ye may." The first stanza is:—

Why do I hear all day
Swift hurrying footsteps, and the sound
Of rolling wheels? Why are ye in such haste,
And whither bound?

The verses are signed "G. W. B." Who was the writer? ION.

[4,026.] **ZOUCH OR WRANGHAM?**—In the Crossley sale catalogue the following entry occurred:—"Wrangham (Archdn.) Life and Character of John Viscount Lonsdale, *only six copies privately printed, n.d. 8vo.*" This was secured for me by Mr. R. H. Sutton. On the wrapper is written, "Presented by the Rev. Archdn. Wrangham (the Author) to W. Ford." Another note indicates that there were only six copies printed *separately*. More recently a copy of the "Memoir of the Reign of James the Second, by John Viscount Lonsdale," York, 1808, 4to., has come into my possession. It has inscribed on the fly-leaf:—"A present from the Rev. Dr. Zouch, prebendary of Durham, uncle to Lord Lonsdale, author of this Life and Character of John Viscount Lonsdale, to Robert Burton. Dr. Zouch was offered the bishoprick of Carlisle in the year 1807, but most conscientiously said, 'Nolo episcopari.'" Prefixed to the work is a Life of Viscount Lonsdale identically the same as the one attributed to Archdeacon Wrangham, and signed T. Z. Who was the author, and from what work was the first item separately printed?

W. WIPER.

Saturday² September 19, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HEIGHTS ABOVE SEA-LEVEL.

(Nos. 4,010 and 4,021.)

[4,027.] As Query No. 4,010 of September 5, by "J. W. S.," was only half-answered by ION in last Saturday's issue, I add the altitudes of the following land-marks to ION's list, amongst which "J. W. S." will find the ones he wants:—

	Feet above sea-level.
Queen's Hotel	153
St. Margaret's Church, Dunham Massey.....	207
Bowdon Parish Church	220
Timperley Church	141
Rostherne Mere	68
High Legh.....	250
Delamere Forest (Billinge Hill).....	586

It is also interesting to know that the Bridgewater Canal, which runs from Manchester to Runcorn without a lock, has a nearly uniform water level of 83 feet. Knowing this, it becomes a sort of datum line from which the levels of the district through which it passes can be approximately ascertained.

C. E. NEWTON.

Cooper-street, Manchester.

THE MANCHESTER CHESS CLUB.

(Note No. 4,009, September 5.)

[4,028.] If "B," before printing his reminiscences, had consulted one of the older members of the Manchester Chess Club, he would have discovered that it was premature to put Mr. Kipping "down among the dead men," that gentleman being in the land of the living, and still a member of the club. Another blunder in "B's" Note is the statement that the great American player, Paul Morphy, once visited the club and gave blindfold performances there. It is quite certain that Morphy never came near the club; in fact there is no evidence in the records of his English tour that he was ever in Manchester. Mr. Kipping is the only Manchester chess-player who played with Morphy, and the encounter took place, not in Manchester, but in Birmingham. As to Horwitz's contributions to chess literature, he never produced a book which could be described as "massive," and he never brought out a work "jointly with Lowenthal." There are other portions of "B's" epistle which are open to criticism, but the errors I have pointed out are sufficient to show that "B" is indeed, as he himself says, "a poor chronicler."

C. A. DUST.

Manchester Chess Club.

ARDWICK HALL.

(Query No. 4,023, September 12.)

[4,029.] Ardwick Hall, I believe, was built at the beginning of the present century. The estate belonged to a family called Hyde—hence the name Hyde Road. The late John Kennedy, who died in 1855, aged eighty-five, father of the present owner of the Hall, Mr. John L. Kennedy, bought the property somewhere about 1820, and removed there from Medlock Bank in Holt Town, a house long since pulled down, and which was subsequently occupied by Sir William Fairbairn before he went to live in the Polygon, Ardwick. The present Mr. John Lawson Kennedy lived at Ardwick Hall when he was in Manchester for upwards of sixty years, and has only left it within the last two or three months. The late Mr. Kennedy built several substantial terraces of houses on the outskirts of the estate, which extends from the Green to Ardwick Cemetery, and from Hyde Road to Park-street. Ardwick Hall, which is now to be let, was formerly called Ardwick House, but Miss Marshall, who lived in Stockport Road at the entrance to the Polygon, wished her residence to be called Ardwick House, and Mr. Kennedy accordingly changed the name of his residence to Ardwick Hall; this would be about forty years ago. Mr. John Lawson Kennedy is now living in Scotland.

J. C.

DR. SOLOMON AND HIS BALM OF GILEAD.

(Nos. 4,012 and 4,019.)

[4,030.] In reference to Dr. Solomon and the Balm of Gilead, I remember a few years ago my late father telling me that, when the medicine was in its full popularity, it was analyzed, and the principal ingredients were found to be brandy and water. Would not this account for its great sale and its wonderful effect on the complexion?

THOMAS A. SOMERVILLE.

Wilmslow.

* * *

The late Dr. James Byron Bradley, of Buxton, married the daughter of Dr. Solomon, so celebrated for his Balm of Gilead. I knew Dr. Bradley intimately, and have had many pleasant and social conversations with him. He had travelled much, had seen many cities, his reading had been varied and extensive, and he was full of anecdote and information. He would say, with a shrug and a chuckle, and a merry twinkle of the eyes, characteristic of him, "I married the Balm of Gilead!" Miss Solomon would have a very good "tocher." Dr. Bradley was

the grandfather of the late Henry J. Byron, the celebrated dramatist and actor; thus Dr. Solomon would be the eminent author's great-grandfather. Dr. Bradley, I believe, was a native of Staleybridge. I know that the late Abel Harrison, of that town, was one of his schoolfellows.

J. C. BATES.

Nuttall Terrace, Buxton.

HULME HALL AND THE ROBBERS' CAVE.

(Nos. 4,018 and 4,020.)

[4,031.] The following is a memorandum of a visit I paid to the place in December, 1852:—The old barn at Hulme Hall was dated 1622, but the end nearest to the hall with the date on it was taken down to make way for the railway. What is left of the barn was the middle part, now converted into a cottage. The roof timbers are strong oak beams, and are grey-slatted with stone quions. The windows have been inserted, and the narrow loopholes closed to make it into a dwelling. The bricks carry the appearance of age, are not remarkable for a good shape, and seem to be rather overburned than under. On one of the stone quions at the back has been recently chiseled "IVLY. T. B. 1622." I recollect some initials and the date 1622 many years ago, but don't remember that the word July was on the stone. The barn was divided from the Hall by the lane leading to Chester Road. When the Hall was taken down the ground on which it stood was lowered by removing the surface to a depth of several feet, exposing the arch of a cellar, which had probably been used as a wine or beer cellar. The arch was of brick, and the mortar so hardened by time that it had resisted for several years all the attempts of the boys in the neighbourhood to pull it in pieces. It is now, however, thrown down and lying in large masses at the bottom of the cavity which is scooped out of the rock. Comparing the bricks with those of the barn, I should say the arch has been built not less than two and a half centuries ago, and it communicated with the Hall by a doorway which, in my recollection, was built up. There was formerly a well sunk at the edge of the rock close to the river, for what purpose I don't know. There was a pump in the courtyard, but there is now no appearance of it.

J. OWEN.

* * *

The authorship of *Sir John Chiverton* has often been incorrectly attributed to Harrison Ainsworth. It has been proved beyond doubt that the late Mr. J. P. Aston was really the creator of that local romance.

XIPHIAS.

* * *

It is rightly stated by Mr. LEARY, in the *City News* of September 12, that I gathered the last of the blue spring crocuses which, up to 1844, grew so abundantly in meadows near St. George's Church, Hulme. The specimen, dated April 5, 1844, is still in my possession. A few months afterwards the ground was prepared for building purposes.

LEO GRINDON.

HANGING DITCH.

(Note No. 4,016, September 12.)

[4,032.] I have noticed many queries about the street known as "Hanging Ditch," as to how it derived its peculiar name, but not one of your correspondents have sent you the true solution. I can do; and the solution may be relied upon, as it was given me by my father many years ago when speaking of Old Manchester and his younger days.

My father was born in the year 1787, in the neighbourhood of Withy Grove, where he lived for over twenty years; and when he was a young man, or about the year 1800 or 1802, there were many dogs in the then small town of Manchester, some of whom had been seized with madness and had bitten others. The authorities of the time being gave notice that all dogs found straying in the streets would be at once destroyed. A raid was made upon the dogs. At that time there was no Town's Yard, but there was a ditch on the site where the present street, now known as Hanging Ditch, is situate. This ditch was a wide open sewer, with several large trees growing alongside, and with branches overhanging it. A dog when caught had a rope tied round its neck; it was taken to one of the trees, and hung on one of the branches which grew over the ditch. As soon as the dog was dead the rope was cut and the dog allowed to fall into the ditch, and there left to decay and decomposition. From that time forward the place was known as "Hanging Ditch." In course of time the ditch was drained, filled up, and converted into a street—the present Hanging Ditch.

Such is the origin of the name. My father has told me, many a time and oft, that he has taken part, lad like, in the hanging of the dogs at that time. Previously the place was known only as "The Ditch," but after the hangings it always was called by its present name, "Hanging Ditch."

My father lived to eighty-one years of age, had resided in Manchester all his life, and therefore had seen many changes in town, men, and manners.

Castleton.

T. J. E.

QUERIES.

[4,033.] FIRE-DRAWING.—Can any correspondent inform me whether the placing of a poker, or a pair of tongs, in front of a newly-made fire, and pointing up the chimney, can assist in making the fire "draw up?" If this be the case, what is the scientific reason why?

WALLWORTH.

[4,034.] DECANI AND CANTORIS.—What is the origin and meaning of the terms Decani and Cantoris, and what are their relative positions in the church? My view is, the Decani is on the right side of the church, looking to the communion table, that is the south; and the Cantoris on the left, or north side. Is this correct?

J. K. D.

GEORGE ELIOT ON WOMAN'S WORK.—"What I should like to be sure of," says George Eliot in her *Life and Letters*, "as a result of higher education for women—a result that will come to pass over my grave—is their recognition of the great amount of social unproductive labour which needs to be done by women, and which is now either not done at all or done wretchedly. No good can come to women, more than to any class of male mortals, while each aims at doing the highest kind of work, which ought rather to be held in sanctity as what only the few can do well. I believe, and I want it to be well shown, that a more thorough education will tend to do away with the odious vulgarity of our notions about functions and employment, and to propagate the true gospel, that the deepest disgrace is to insist on doing work for which we are unfit—to do work of any sort badly."

ANECDOTE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.—In one of his speeches Lord Shaftesbury told a story which was an unconscious tribute to the superiority of his own work over the more showy achievements of the world's heroes. Lord Shaftesbury said:—Very many years ago—more than thirty years ago—I was driving down through Hertfordshire with the old Duke of Wellington in his carriage. It was a beautiful summer evening, the sun was shining, and everything looked flourishing and joyous. He was silent for a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes. At the end of that time he said, "I will tell you what I have been thinking about. I have been contemplating this very beautiful country, and I have been thinking what a curse war is. Suppose I had to take military possession of this district, I would have to lay low every beautiful thing which you see here. Take my word for it," said that old veteran, the hero of a hundred battles, "take my word for it, if you had seen but one day of war you would pray to Almighty God that you might never see such a thing again."

Saturday, September 26, 1885.

CHEETWOOD: ITS LORD, HISTORY, AND PUBLIC PARK.

[BY AN OLD INHABITANT.]

The air is filled with cries of land-law reform. It is the question of the hour, and the electors of the United Kingdom are being informed and instructed to an enormous extent on this many-sided subject. It is to be hoped that the attention of our legislators will not be entirely absorbed by agricultural questions. The land in and around our large towns is the source of most of the great fortunes of England, and Mr. Broadhurst's bill for the enfranchisement of urban leaseholders only touches one corner of the question. The following are equitable and necessary changes:—(1) The rating of chief rents; (2) the rating of unoccupied land, the value of which is being improved by the work of the neighbouring town; and (3) the compulsory provision on all large plots belonging to a single owner of the necessities of civilization—open spaces, school sites, and the like, without payment to the landlord. But general statements do not come home to us. We require illustrations from places within our own knowledge. We have only to look round. And I would ask your readers to look at that great tract of land stretching from the Strangeways Prison to Elizabeth-street and Waterloo Road—the district which is called Cheetwood.

Cheetwood Lane turns from Sherborne-street, Strangeways, just past the Assize Courts as you go to Higher Broughton. It is unpaved, and has always been so, but in recent years cinders have been liberally vouchsafed to it. All the houses in Cheetwood are clustered round Cheetwood Lane, for the remainder of the land is covered with brickfields. The hill of Cheetwood is a mass of clay, and is being worked down. The houses in Cheetwood Lane have as yet escaped the devouring flood of brickmaking, which is raging around them, and will sooner or later swallow them down. It was a picturesque lane once, and even now looks quite romantic by moonlight, for the diversity of houses and gardens is such as cannot be matched so near the centre of our city. The wooden palings, the gardens, the utter absence of uniformity, are suggestive of a country suburb, and the houses in Cheetwood may be considered as the relics of a country suburb of old Manchester.

For more than fifty years, perhaps indeed since the battle of Waterloo, development has been arrested in Cheetwood, and decay has not been idle. The houses are of all shapes and sizes. Additions have been built to some of them, and pieces have dropped from others. But most of them are at present in fair condition of tenantable repair. One of the largest, once notorious in the word sense under the name of The Priory, is now the Rectory of St. Alban's. Probably the spiritual presence of the Reverend M. J. Knox-Little during many years has had sufficient power to morally disinfect this dwelling. The area of Cheetwood is, I suppose, about half-a-mile square. The whole of it belongs to the Earl of Derby.

Now twenty years ago Cheetwood owned the sway of that venerable sportsman, Captain White, who got what he could out of it for his lifetime. At his death it reverted to the Stanleys. But how or why the Earl of Derby for the time being disposed of Cheetwood to Captain White or his ancestor is not written in any local history that I have come across. In due time it came back under the legitimate sway of Mr. Statter, the viceroy of the Derby kingdom, and he proceeded to make it into bricks. Now the Earl of Derby has neglected none of his duties as a landlord of such property as this. Fortunately for him there are no duties to neglect. What indeed is required of him? (1) To receive a tribute on bricks that are made as long as the clay lasts. (2) To get as much rent as possible from the old houses till he shall require that space also for brickfields. (3) When all possible rents have been drawn and bricks made to lay on the land, the largest chief rents that jerry-builders can be persuaded to pay—these chief rents to be exempt from all local rates. While the tribute-bearing bricks are being made Manchester grows. It stretches out its arms and embraces Cheetwood. If the Earl of Derby deigns to think about the future of so small a portion of his vast domains, he will see in his mind's eye a fair prospect of narrow streets—rows of brick dwellings of the cheapest kind. Eighteenpence a yard chief rent leaves a narrow margin to the builder of cottages. But what with cheap bricks, bad mortar, and a little paint, these captains of industry will solve the problem, and the homes of Manchester's future citizens will arise. Perhaps the munificence of the ground landlord may build and endow a church to provide for the spiritual needs of the new Cheetwood. Per-

haps he may only give the site. But he will be able to get larger chief rents for some of the corner plots when the public-houses are built.

Now it would seem to a visitor from Utopia that, to the owner of a plot like this, the Town Council of Manchester should speak somewhat as follows:—"Fair sir, when you have finished your brick-making you will have made more than your due out of this land. Nevertheless, though you would never feel the loss of it, we will deal generously with you. One-fourth shall be reserved for open spaces and play-grounds for our people, and we will charge ourselves with the cost of its maintenance in good order for their benefit. The rest, except the necessary plots for board schools, baths, and free library, which we select, is your own to charge with chief rents at your own sweet will. But the streets shall be broad and the building regulations strict. Moreover, every chief rent shall be subject to our local rates to be paid by you."

Most people will agree with the visitor from Utopia that this would not only be fair, but generous treatment for such a landlord. And a citizen of Manchester should be ashamed to tell him that our Parks Committee had actually paid the Earl of Derby some £9,000 for the privilege of taking a few acres near Elizabeth-street, and keeping it for a park and playground. They have spent, in addition, a large sum from our public funds in fitting it for their purposes according to their lights. By so doing they have largely raised the value of the adjoining land for residential purposes. Surely they are not afraid the Earl of Derby will not have enough money. They forget that we paid him £5,000 per annum for managing or mismanaging our colonies, and are now paying his heir presumptive the same salary for the same work. But our Parks Committee thought that they had done very well, for they are opening the Recreation Ground to-day with some parade.

We have now seen what Cheetwood is to the Earl of Derby. And now, how did he come by it? How did he acquire the right to take advantage of Manchester prosperity to lay his chief rents on this land? It is the outcome of an old story taught in all our schools and told in one of Shakspeare's finest plays. Four hundred years ago the fate of England was settled on Bosworth Field by a successful piece of treachery. Lord Stanley reaped the reward of his timely "change of party," he received

the lands of Thomas Pilkington, who had not been so intelligent in observing the signs of the times. As the old deed of A.D. 1485, says, "Thom. Com. Derb. nuper Dominus Stanley hab. ex dono dni. R. Henr 7^{mi} ac 1 the Manor de Chetam cum. om. terr. et ten. in Pilkington, Bury, *Cheetwood*, Totington, Wadsworth, Salford, Shuttleworth, Shiffalbotom, Middleton, et Overfeld in Com. Lanc. quoe nuper fuerunt Thomae Pilkington attincti." So that the possession of Cheetwood is as old as the Earldom of Derby, and the Mayor will open the new Recreation Ground in honour of the four hundredth anniversary of the connection of the Earls of Derby with their dependency of Cheetwood.

NOTES.

HOTEL AND INN.

[4,035.] According to the Act 43 and 44 Vict. c. 20, the legal name of Hotel is limited to public-houses adopted and mainly used for the reception of guests or travellers, the value of the premises to be £50 or upwards. The licence duty for a bona fide hotel is not to exceed £20. But if any portion of the premises exceeding £25 annual value is used as an ordinary public-house, the term Hotel is no longer applicable, as it falls under the licence of an ordinary inn, which is then the correct designation. These distinctions did not exist before 1880. R. H. Cheetham Hill.

WORTHING=MANURE.

[4,036.] The arms of the old Lancashire family of Worthington are Argent three dung-forks Sable, and it has been frequently matter of conjecture how such curious arms should have been assigned. In recently examining a North Lancashire will I have found an expression which at once explains how these arms came to be given to the Worthington family. Margaret Spencer, of Hurstwood, North Lancashire, in her will, dated 11 April, 1602, bequeaths to one of her sons "all my manure or worthinge," showing that "worthing" was an old word for dung, and that these arms are only another instance of the canting arms so well known in Heraldry. This word is not to be found in Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary, Wright's Provincial Dictionary, or in the Lancashire Glossary. Both Halliwell and Wright, however, have the word "Wording-hook, a dung-rake (Cheshire)," but no quotation of the use of this word in Cheshire or elsewhere is given. It is not to be

found in Wilbraham's Cheshire Glossary, but is given in that of Mr. Egerton Leigh, who probably met with it in Halliwell's Dictionary.

In this same will there are other curious words. Thus "one churn, one *masheknappe*," one chandler or candlestick, one *quishingrave*." Possibly some of your readers can explain the two words in italics. Local wills and inventories are a class of documents which will well repay any searcher after obsolete dialect words or expressions.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergale, N. Wales.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

DECANI AND CANTORIS.

(Query No. 4,034, September 19.)

[4,037.] Decani (Latin plural) implies that the passages thus marked in the music must be taken by those singers who are placed on that side of the choir where the Dean (Latin *Decanus*) sits, which is usually the right-hand side (south) on entering the choir from the nave; but in some cathedrals the Dean sits on the left (north) side. Cantoris (Latin) marks the passages intended to be sung by those choristers who are placed on that side of the choir where the *cantor* (Latin) or precentor sits, which is usually the left-hand side (north) on entering the choir from the nave.

EUTERPE.

DR. SOLOMON AND HIS BALM OF GILEAD.

(Nos. 4,012, 4,019, and 4,020.)

[4,038.] If the following tale about Dr. Solomon is not true, perhaps it may be said to be "well found." On one occasion a number of his friends called at his house and asked to taste the Balm of Gilead. They found it so insinuating that they got uproariously tipsy on the physic. Shortly afterwards the doctor sent them in a bill for the balm, and the amount was so large that it had anything but a balmy or sedative effect upon the toppers. At the same time they were informed that they were welcome to the wine or other stimulants stored in his cellar, but the medicine must be paid for.

WILLIAM HORSFALL.

Cheetham.

HULME HALL AND THE ROBBER'S CAVE.

(No. 4,031 and others.)

[4,039.] As a reader of the *City News* I take an interest in anything relating to old Manchester,

having lived there to the end of 1858. My grandfather and family were living in Manchester about 1760. When I was a boy, in 1840, I, with other playmates, frequently played in the Fisherman's Rock, but we always (if my memory serves me right) associated Guy Faux Cave in Ordsal Lane as a Robber's Cave. I don't remember Hulme old Hall being associated with a Robber's Cave. Of course those secret passages had a peculiar fascination to us as lads. I send you a rough sketch of the Fisherman's Rock, drawn from memory. It had always a great charm for me.

CHARLES EDWARD HANDFORD.

Willaston, near Nantwich.

FIRE-DRAWING.

(Query No. 4,038, September 19.)

[4,040.] If I remember rightly, this is a query which appeared in a scientific journal about the beginning of this century. Certainly the notion referred to is a very old one, and "there is something in it." If we would mend a fire in an ordinary, old-fashioned house range, we "scale" it at the bottom and "stir it up." In "kindling" it, the help to be got from poker and tongs, I apprehend, is in lifting up and keeping open for the fullest supply of air the materials to be set on fire. It is the oxygen gas of the air which feeds the flame; hence we have brighter fires when the air is cold and dry, and therefore heavier, than when it is hot and filled with watery vapour. Oxygen is known to have a great affinity for polished iron, and it may be that by polished poker or tongs a very little extra of it may be communicated to a nascent fire.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

HEIGHTS ABOVE SEA-LEVEL.

(Nos. 4,010, 4,021, and 4,027.)

[4,041.] It would be interesting as well as useful information to many people like myself, to whom it is a matter of healthful importance to pitch their habitation on as high ground as possible within a radius of a few miles from Manchester, if ION, C. E. NEWTON, or some other of your readers would kindly furnish the altitudes, or say where they may be readily procured, of a few more places on the higher ground near Manchester, including Prestwich, Whitefield, Irlam o'th' Heights, Pendlebury, Monton, Patricroft, and more particularly on the Derbyshire side, embracing Hazel Grove and Marple districts.

J. D.

* * *

In your issue of September 12, the height of the old Racecourse, Kersal, was given as 100 feet above sea-level. This is probably correct for the old Racecourse at Castle Irwell, but Kersal Moor must be 250 feet at least above the sea.

J. S. D.

Kersal.

HANGING DITCH.

(Nos. 4,018 and 4,032.)

[4,042.] With all respect to your correspondent "T. J. E." and the shade of his anecdotal sire, it is simply impossible for the name "Hanging Ditch" to have been originally given to that street from any occurrence about the year 1800. Hanging Ditch was known as such, probably, centuries before the father of your correspondent was born. It will be found named as such in the "Plan of Manchester taken about 1650" (see frontispiece to Vol. 63 Chetham Society's Publications); it is also plainly marked in Tinker's Plan of Manchester, 1772, and in Laurent's Map, 1793. In the Manchester Directory for 1778 (one year only after the birth of T. J. E.'s father), I find the names and trades of numerous residents in Hanging Ditch; also several public-houses or hotels, such as the White Horse, White Bear, White Lion, and Spread Eagle; and I have no doubt that anyone having access to earlier maps or directories than those quoted by me will find Hanging Ditch therein named.

It is rather curious that "T. J. E." has omitted to notice that SUB TUMULO in your issue of the 12th (and to whose note T. J. E.'s communication is a part reply) quotes a book published twelve years before T. J. E.'s father was born, in which Hanging Ditch is mentioned as the name of the street in question, and an origin for the name given.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

* * *

"T. J. E." confidently writes how Hanging Ditch acquired that name in "1800 or 1802," in consequence of his father and others making a raid on a lot of dogs suffering from rabies, and hanging them over the then open ditch. That this episode may really have occurred is possible enough, but it certainly had nothing whatever to do with the naming of the street, as Hanging Ditch existed (I am speaking of the street) and was known by that name some gene-

rations before the birth of his father, as "T. J. E." may readily verify by reference to some of the old plans of Manchester, to be found in the Chetham Library and elsewhere.

M. E. A.

QUERIES.

[4,043.] OLD HIGH ROAD FROM MANCHESTER TO CHESTER.—Did this road run through Chorlton and thence down Glebeland Road to Chester? If so, at what date was the present route through Sale opened for traffic?

M.

[4,044.] THE ACKERS FAMILY.—James Ackers, of Lark Hill, High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1800, a Manchester merchant, and colonel of the Manchester Volunteers, whose portrait is in Peel Park Museum—had he any sons, were they in business with the father, or did they follow any profession in Manchester?

P. A.

[4,045.] AUTHORSHIP OF SENTENCE.—Whence is the following quotation derived?—"Who plucked this flower?" said the gardener. He answered, 'The Master.' The gardener held his peace." I quote from memory, and may be wrong in one or two words. The passage forms an inscription on a gravestone in the burial-ground connected with the Unitarian Church, Gorton.

J. T. MARRIOTT.

[4,046.] THE WORD "HEE" IN CHESHIRE.—When strolling through the meadows at Urmston I have frequently been reminded of the fact that most of the old residents of this district refer to that portion of the country as the Hee; and moreover I find the same word used in Waugh's *Lancashire Sketches* by Owd Tummus, who, in answer to inquiries respecting Tim Bobbin, refers to Owd Hannah Wood as a likely prrson to give the necessary information. "Hoo lives by the hee-gate as yo gwon to Stretford." I should be glad if any reader can give further information respecting the word "Hee;" also when and how it first came to be used in reference to the Urmston meadows; and further, if it is used in reference to meadows situated in other districts.

JOHN BRADSHAW.

Urmston.

ENGLISH CAPITAL IN INDIA.—The amount of English money now invested in Indian sterling loans and railways is close upon £200,000,000.

Saturday, October 3, 1885.

NOTES.

AN ANCIENT DOCUMENT RELATING TO MANCHESTER
OLD CHURCH.

[4,047.] I found the following copy of document among some papers which belonged to the Butterworths. I do not know whether it has already been published. It evidently contains many errors, but its contents may throw some light on the history of our now cathedral church. I promised Canon Letts to send him a copy, but as many of my Manchester friends are greatly interested in the history of Manchester Cathedral, and to save the trouble of making many copies, may I request you to publish it in the *City News* and invite the attention of my friends to it through this medium? If I mistake not it is in the handwriting of James Butterworth, Jun., who occasionally assisted his father, James Butterworth, and his brother Edwin Butterworth, in copying old deeds. The Latin inscription on the Huntingdon tomb as given in this document is simply unreadable, but by the aid of Baines I have cobbled it into shape. Baines does not give all the inscription, but the latter part, as given by Butterworth, is so defective that I cannot make out what it means. Here and there throughout the document I have added a word in brackets to help the sense. I shall be glad to know if the original is still in existence. The "silver-tongued" Wroe died in 1718, and it was probably in his time that Ottiwell Heginbotham wrote this account. By the way, who was Ottiwell Heginbotham?

SAMUEL ANDREW.

Hey Lees, Oldham.

A COPY OF A COPY.

July 28, Anno Christi 1422. The Church at Manchester was founded of Wood, the Lord Delawhure being the cheif founder who was Bishop of Durham. It cost him £3000 towards the building of it; besides he gave 12 manns towards the maintenance of it. Ye name of ye Wardens since ye foundn. Sr. John Huntingdon was ye 1st Warden in (1422) and was removed here from Assheton-under-Line of which place he was p'son wch. sd. Parish of Assheton was formerly pte. of Manchr. P'ish. He builded ye Quire of wood ye other pte. was (built) at ye same time and continued Warden 36 years. But wt. hee built of timber here was in Henry ye 7th time pulled down, when

ye Patrick [fabric] of ye Church yt. now is was built and the timber was carried to Trafford, Ordeall, and Cleyton, whre. it still remained in outbuildings. This Sr. John lyes buried at ye east end of ye Quire just going up to ye high alter, with his picture in Brasse, upon the stone, his superscription, Hic Jacet Johannes Huntington Bacc in Decr prime Magister sive custos istius C'legij qui de novo construxit istam cancellam qui obiit Xlmo die IXbris (1458) Cujus Animæ proprietur Deus. Over his head is written, Q — — virorum — — sua — — Sr. John Booth was ye second Warden in (1460) and was a young brother of Booth of Barton, who was in the quarrel betwixt the 2 Roses and took pte. wth. ye House of Lancaster and was fined by King ye 4th, for never in any quarrel since ye Conquest was so many ancient and noble houses destroyed as in those, wherein perished at least 200,000 English men. Sre. Ralph Langley was the third Warden in (1480) and was the second son of Langley of Edgecroft he was parson of Preswich. Yc same time he held his place at Manchester he made ye chimes of ye Bells at Manchr. Church and lyeth buried at Preswich. He married with the daughter and heir of Prestwch. of wch. pce. they were then patrons. Langleys went out of their name in the reign of Elizabeth and left four daughters. One married Reddish of Reddish, another to a younger brother of Leigh of Lime, and a third Assheton of Chadderton, and the fourth to one Dancy, a younger brother of a family in Wiltshire. Sir James Standley was ye fourth Warden in (1485) and was brother to the Earl of Derby, who was husband to the Countess of Richmond, ye daughter of John Duke of Somerset and mother of King Henry 7th. This warden was bishop of Ely and held his place at Man'r ye same time; hee built a great Chappell in the north of the Church and a square on the north side of that again; he also built the woodwork on ye south side of ye Quire. Ye other side was at the proper cost of Mr. Richard Beck, of Manchester, Merchant. This Sr. James lyes buried in a tomb on the north side in his own chapel, with his pontifical robes and ye arms of his family and bishopricke quartered wth. his superscription, "Of your charity pray for ye soul of James Standley, sometime, Bishop of Ely and warden of this college, who departed out of this transitory world ye 22 of march (1525) upon whose soul and all Christian souls Christ have mercy." This Sr. James brother was named Thomas, son and heir. Sir John Stanley of Latham knight wch. sd. Ths. was made Baron by King Henry 6th, and his son created Earl of Derby by King Henry 7th after his victory at Bosworth, bestowed likewise upon him the fortified [? forfeited] land northward, in the first place he had Sr. Thos. Broughton's estate, also Harrington estate, and Francis Lord Viscount Lovel's, which house had also conjoining by a match, Holland of Holland. He had also Pilkington of Pilkington estate. He had Pooton of Pooton estate, besides many lers estates in this county, Bytham of Bytham, Mawbrey of Kerby estates, with at least twenty gentlemen's estates besides. The brother William was also another brother to this warden; he had the whole hundred of Bosworth fields bestowed upon him, but he, proving false to his master the Poett Allen * * * esteem the King had of him, but Henry, in his divinity, denied that Stanley for worke should be justified. The porch of the church was built by one Bibby, and the chapel adjoining to it was built by one

Gally, a merchant of Manchester. This chapel hath since been purchased by Mr. Radcliffe, of Manchester, and since by Mr. Joshua Brown, tradesman, of Manchester. The next chapel was built by one Thomas Dellbourn, who gave it to one Scholes, a priest, which Scholes bestowed upon the House of Trafford. The next chapel is Jesus Chapel, and was built by one Mr. Richard Beck, a merchant in Manchester, who also built side of the seats in the quire. Sr Robert Cliffe was 5th warden, and he was D.D. Sr George West was the 6th warden in (1518) of the family of the Wests and was not of four (?) but matched themselves with the Delawares and supreme lords and patrons of Manchester they built the chapel at the east end of the church commonly known by the name of Sir John Byrom's chapel, and since hath been purchased by Cheetham of Cleyton. The chapel was dedicated to our Lady the Virgin Mary, and but look through the chapels that have been builded on Man'r church they shall see that there is not one of the heirs of the Foundations that have them in possession except that of Standley's, but are called different names from what they were at first when the church was built, as appears in the chapel belonging to the Strangeways. It was built by Hulton, might then be supposed of Ordsall, now Hulton of Hulton of the Parke, for that his Arms appear in the head of the chapel wall to the church yard, and since hath been purchased by one Hartley, Esq. Sr George Colliar was the 7th warden in (1535), was brother to Colliar of Colliar near Stone in Staffordshire, and was by Edward the 6th deprived of his wardenship for denying the Oath of Supremacy, and thereupon the College was suppressed and turned into a vicarage. Sr William Penketh was the vicar. This Colliar retired to his friends near Stone till the death of Edward the 6th, then Queen Mary sent this Colliar again to Manchester, and in the 3rd and 4th of Philip and Mary the College was restored, and George Collier being appointed warden and John Coppage and Lawrence Vause were named Fellows, they 3 to elect others to complete their numbers. The Queen restored 60 messuages which she had in her hands in Manchester, Newton, and Kirkmanshume, with the Tythes of the Parish. Sir Lawrence Vause who was the 8th Warden in (1559) and was flung out by Queen Elizabeth fled beyond sea—coming back and dyed in Prison. This Sr Lawrence was born at Brackred. Sr William Birch was the 9th warden in (1560) and was 2d brother to Birch and brother to George Birch of Mancr was the 2d that Queen Elizabeth made warden then but held it not long but dyed at the Parsonage House of Stanhope in the Bishoprick of Durham in 1572. This Sir William was the son of George Birch of Birch by marrying the daughter of Richard Beck of Manchester Mert the Founder of Jesus College and one side of the seats in the Quire. Sir Thomas Pearl (Herle) a cornish man was the 10th warden in 1572 and was Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth. He fell to selling the Church land if any would buy and granted long leases of all the Tythes. Did what in him lay, to make away all the revenues thereof, this was to grant what he intended to pass to one Killin-grove, a country man of his with which he passed it over to the Queen who reconveyed it (to) what party? he designed. Having made away all he could, he resigned it to Dr. Walton, and the Queen called in the Old Foundation, consisting of one warden, 8 fellows, 4 chaplains, 4 fellows, 2 parish curates, one organist, 2 parish clerks, and 4 quarristors. Doctor

Bolton in 1578 was the 11th warden, and stayed but a while here. But was called to be Bishop of Exeter. This gentleman was a stranger, and his parentage not known. Doctor Chadderton was the 12th in 1581 and brother to Chadderton of Nuthurst and Bishop of Chester. Chadderton proved another Herle and made away all he could. Dr. Dee 1606 was the 13th warden, and was Mathematician to King Charles The 1st. Dr. Murray was the 14th warden in 1625, was a scottish man and flung out by King Charles the 1st. Mr. Richard Heyrick was the 15th warden in 1635, and was buried under Sir John Huntingdon's stone in 1667. Mr. Richd. Stradford was the 16th warden 1667 and was B.D. and after 6 years stay D.D. since Bishop of Chester. Mr. Richd. Wroe B.D. was the 17th warden in 1684 and 1685.

OTTIWELL HESINBOTHAM.

The above account was copied by me from an ancient Document found among my father's papers in 1814.

JAMES KINDER,

Son of the late Rev. Ralph Kinder, vicar of Mottram, in Longdendale, Cheshire.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HULME HALL AND THE ROBBER'S CAVE.

(No. 4,039 and others.)

[4,048.] There can be no doubt whatever as to the Robber's Cave being on the site of old Hulme Hall, near the junction of the Irwell and Medlock (not Mersey, as I am made to say in my previous note). I have not only a distinct recollection of it; but Mr. ROYLE, whose parents were the last tenants, corroborates me; Mr. OWEN gives a correct description of the arch or cave; the late Mr. H. B. Peaseock (Horace Heartwell), in the *North of England Magazine*, relates how he, Harrison Ainsworth, and others, often played robbers upon this spot; and I have since been informed by a trustworthy person, and one likely to know, that the late Mr. Ainsworth was captain of the band. Besides all this, it is in the vicinity of the other places named in the query; whereas the cave in Ordsall Clough, mentioned by Mr. HANDFORD, was some distance away and on the other side of the river. I was perfectly acquainted with this cave as well, and often played "Guy Faux" there; but it was always known to me as the "Giant's Cave." In Dr. Hibbert-Ware's *Ancient Parish Church of Manchester* there is an inscription and an engraving of the cave, which was called "Woden's Ford." Barrett tells us that tradition asserted it to be "the den or woody habitation of the priest or priests of Woden, the much-esteemed War deity of the Saxons." Hibbert-Ware conjectures that this temple was turned into an oratory by the Cluniac monks, sup-

posed to have been brought over by William Peveril from the Abbey of Linton. The cave formerly contained a number of carvings and inscriptions which drew many antiquaries and other people who loved the curious to the spot; but a dyer named Hall, who was the tenant, objecting to these visits, obliterated them. By some it was known as the Druid's Cave.

FRED LEARY.

Manchester.

QUISHINGRAVE.

(Note No. 4,036, September 28.)

[4,049.] In reply to Mr. EARWAKER's note, "Quishingrave" sounds familiar to me, but I do not know what it means. Of course, we all know that a "Quishin" in Lancashire is a cushion.

SAMUEL ANDREW.

HANGING DITCH.

(Nos. 4,016, 4,022, and 4,042.)

[4,050.] It is an extraordinary coincidence that your two correspondents, Mr. H. B. REDFERN and "M. E. A.," should both fall into the same error in regard to this matter. "T. J. E." gives the correct version of how Hanging Ditch acquired its present name. My uncle Thomas Worsley and the late Moses Mills, artist, were of the party who hung the mad dogs; and I have frequently heard the matter mentioned in the family circle when I was a child. Thomas Worsley was proprietor of the celebrated stage coach, Skipping Jenny, which ran between Manchester and Leeds, and which had such a tragic ending by being overturned into the river Aig when being driven by Richard Rylands, generally called "Dare Devil Dick," who, I think, was an uncle of John Rylands. If your two correspondents will pay another visit to the Chetham Library they will find, upon reference to the maps, that what they took for "Hanging Ditch" is "Ranging Dyke," the name by which Long Millgate was at that time known.

C. W. HESKETH, M.A.

Sherwin-street, Bradford.

HEIGHTS ABOVE SEA-LEVEL.

(Nos. 4,010, 4,021, 4,027, and 4,041.)

[4,051.] Without giving specifically the points J. D. wants to know the levels of, it is difficult to answer his query; but perhaps the following may be of use:—

	Feet.
The highest point in Prestwich township is at Pole Field	380
In the centre of the village	305

The highest point in Whitefield is at Stand 435

Level of road opposite Whitefield Station..... 360

Irlams o'th Height is not itself a township; the level at entrance to Swinton Park is 230

The highest point of Pendlebury is in Burying Lane, near the new station 293

Monton varies from 100 at the Green to 130 in other places.

Patricroft is not a separate township; the level of the canal which passes through the village is 84

Hazel Grove, Cheshire, has an altitude of..... 300

Marple Church, Cheshire, stands on ground above the sea..... 624

The six-inch Ordnance Maps are the best reference for general levels; but as I am not aware of their being kept in any of the local libraries, I shall be glad any time to place them at J. D.'s disposal, with other levels not given thereon which I have in my possession.

C. E. NEWTON.

Cooper-street, Manchester.

HEE, HEYS, AND EES IN CHESHIRE.

(Query No. 4046, September 28.)

[4,052.] Since sending my query of last week, I have come across some old documents, published about the time that the Cheshire Lines Railway was being made, which contain announcements with reference to the sale of land for building purposes. These papers, referring to Urmston Meadows, describe them as the "Heys." This may be the correct word, but it certainly does not convey the pronunciation as rendered by the older inhabitants of the district. It is, however, easy to understand how "Heys" may be pronounced "Hee" by the broader spoken country people, and further, it is not unnatural for the public generally to fall into the same error (if such it be), seeing how rarely mention is made in print of the meadows at Urmston. I find "Urmston Ees" mentioned on an old Ordnance map.

JOHN BRADSHAW.

Urmston.

* * *

According to the Ordnance Maps the spelling of this word should be Eea, plural Ees. On the one-inch quarter-sheet, showing the course of the Mersey from a little above Barlow Hall to Latchford, the singular or plural of the word occurs about a dozen times, as part of the names attached to stretches of low-lying meadow land, some on the Lancashire and some on the Cheshire side of the river. The aspirate has probably often been prefixed in ordinary conversation owing to the difficulty of using the word immediately after the definite article. For instance,

certain meadows near Thelwall are marked on the map as "The Ees," pure and simple; and an uneducated person, finding that "Th' Ees" was liable to be confounded with the word "these," would almost naturally endeavour to emphasize his or her meaning by speaking of the meadows as "The Hees."

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

OLD HIGH ROAD FROM MANCHESTER TO CHESTER.

(Query No. 4,043, September 25.)

[4,053.] The old Roman Road, "Watling-street," ran from Manchester through Stretford to Chester, and Porkhampton is rich in relics of it in the shape of ancient pavements and other objects. In the face of this I should be surprised to hear that such a route as "M." indicates was ever needed. In the coaching days, early in the century, two roads were in use—one via Stretford, Altrincham, Buckley Hill, Northwich, through Delamere Forest, and Stamford Bridge, entering Chester through Boughton. This route is $38\frac{1}{2}$ miles, a quarter of a mile less than the shortest line of rails, the C. L. C. The other is through Eccles, Warrington, Frodsham, and Mickle Trafford, and entered Chester at Flookbrook, 39 miles. I can affirm that both these roads were used in 1821, and should think that the first-mentioned does not deviate much from "Watling-street," since the Romans could not have gained more than seven miles by keeping strictly to a bee line between the two towns.

ARTHUR J. MORRIS.

* * *

I have several times been surprised by hearing expressions to the same effect as the query by "M." that the road from Stretford, through Sale to Chester, is a short cut of recent make, and that the old road was by way of Chorlton and Glebelands Road. I have even heard a well-known public man in Ashton say, "It was a great improvement when Cross-street was made." I should have thought everyone knew that Cross-street is part of the Great Watling-street system of the Romans—a "Stratum Vitellianum," the great road-maker of those early invaders—and although within the last century greatly improved there is, to my knowledge, no record to show it has ever been known to be impassable, diverting the traffic by way of what they call in Ashton "the Dumble." True, Glebelands Road can probably boast of nearly, if not the same, antiquity, and is more or less on the site of a Roman, and possibly

earlier track, traversing the south bank of the river, rendered necessary by the river not being fordable below the street ford (Stretford). But it must have been little better than a track, and nothing like the great military way which traversed the island from one end to the other.

C. E. NEWTON.

QUERIES.

[4,054.] COOKE'S AMPHITHEATRE.—In what year and where did the late Mr. Cooke open his amphitheatre in Manchester, and what was the name of the first spectacle play introduced by him therein?

M. D.

[4,055.] MAPS OF OLD MANCHESTER.—I am giving an essay on Historic Manchester, and should like to illustrate it with a map or two of Manchester in, say, the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Is it possible to hire, or purchase at a moderate price, these maps? Information will oblige.

A.

[4,056.] FIELD-NAMES IN CHESHIRE.—It is customary with the farmers at Urmston to refer to each and all the fields in the meadows by name, such as Calf Cote, Checkabutts, Cum a-Riding, Barrowfield, Broken Bank, Jeremy, Maghole, Mag Mare, Ruah, Smoothing Iron, Middup, Phistle-a-Riding, Wheat-ear (or Wheaty, as it is usually pronounced). Perhaps some one can give further information respecting the origin of these names, and how they came to be applied to meadow lands.

JOHN BRADSHAW.

[Field-names are common all over England.—Ed.]

STRANGE CONFESSION OF MARIE LOUISE.—The following appears in *The Journal of Mary Frampton*, just published:—Marie Louise (the Austrian princess, and second wife of the Emperor Napoleon) was sitting one evening with Lady Burghersh, when the conversation turned upon Napoleon, to whom the former said she had certainly believed herself much attached, and was so, having been dazzled by his military glory and the greatness of his situation on the imperial throne. Lady Burghersh then asked if she had not kept up a correspondence with him during the time of his residence in Elba. She answered "Yes; I certainly carried on such a correspondence to a much greater extent than was ever suspected." "Then why," said Lady Burghersh, "did you not join him during the Hundred Days?" The answer, "I could not," was made. On being further pressed as to the obstacles which prevented this, Marie Louise answered only "that was impossible," but at last ended by stating that being with child by another man was the invincible reason that prevented it. That man the Empress married immediately on the death of Napoleon, having had two children by him previously and two subsequent to their marriage. Marie Louise was living with him when this conversation took place.

Saturday, October 10, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HANGING DITCH.

(No. 4,050 and others.)

[4,057.] In a small pamphlet recently published, by the Rev. E. F. Letts, M.A., on Warden Huntynghon, there is the following paragraph at page 101:—"We find on the 24 August, 12 Hen. VI. (1434), our Warden purchasing lands in Hangyng dyche, of Reginald West, Lord la Warre." Henging Dyche is also mentioned in the Court Leet Records of the Manor of Manchester in the sixth year of Edward VI., 1552. And in 1560 it was ordered "that no persons shall not from henceforth cast any dung, filth, or muck upon or over the Hanging Bridge anenst the Tavern of Ann Traves, 4d." [penalty.] If the ditch took its name from the hanging of dogs, they must have begun at a very early period.

J. OWEN.

On the 24th of August, 12th Henry VI. (1434), John Huntynghon, first Warden of Manchester College, purchased lands in "ye Hangyng dyche" to build almshouses for the poor thereon, from Sir Reginald West Lord la Warre.

"Alexandre Newton holdyth one Burgage lieuge in the hangynge Brige xviijs. George Rameston holdyth the one Howse lieuge in the hangynge dicke within the said town of Manchestre." These are rentals held by the chantry priest of the Holy Trinity Chapel in the Cathedral, as recorded by the commissioners of Henry VIII., and quite dispose of the very mad dog theory.

ERNEST F. LETTS.

Newton Heath,

C. W. HESKETH, M.A., from the tenor of his reply in your last issue, supports "T. J. E." in fixing 1800 or thereabouts as the date Hanging Ditch originally acquired its present appellation. I scarcely think either "M. E. A." or I need re-visit the Chetham Library for the purpose of verifying our references; as a mere cursory glance at any plan or directory of Manchester of a date prior to 1800 will at once show and prove the position taken by "M. E. A." and self. I will, however, venture to ask Mr. HESKETH to refer to the note of SUB TUMULI in your issue of September 12. This note—and here is another "coincidence"—is ignored by both "T. J. E." and Mr. HESKETH. He quotes Whitaker's *History of Manchester*, the London edition of 1775 (mark the

year), and there speaks of "Hanging Ditch," and gives a most reasonable and probable origin for the term. Further, I refer these gentlemen to one of the interesting legal notes of your valued correspondent, Mr. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN (No. 3,651, November 8, 1884), this being an extract from an old deed (temp. William and Mary, about A.D. 1690) of a grant to one John Turner of a tenement brew-house, stable, and other buildings "scituate standing and lyeing in Manchester aforesaid in or near a certain streete or place there called the Hanging Ditch." As a theory only, and to account for the misconception under which "T. J. E." and Mr. HESKETH seem to labour, I suggest that in A.D. 1800, and perhaps for some time after, part of the old fosse or ditch remained open as a sewer, and was used for the purposes named by these gentlemen. The facts as to the dog-hanging incident are of course indisputable, but not, I venture to think, the notion that such an incident, at the time named, gave the name originally to Hanging Ditch. This is an evident anachronism.

HENRY B. REDFERN.

In his reply to your two correspondents, Mr. H. B. REDFERN and "M. E. A.," respecting the name of the above locality, Mr. C. W. HESKETH, M.A., referring to the old maps of Manchester, makes the confident assertion "that what they (and I fancy a goodly number of others) took for 'Hanging Ditch' is really 'Ranging Dyke,' the name by which Long Millgate was at that time (query 1,880) known." After reading this statement I, as a matter of curiosity, looked up three of the oldest maps of Manchester in my possession, viz., a small plan of the town "as it was in 1650," prefaced to the 1839 edition of Hollingworth's *Chronicles*, Tinker's excellent map of the town in 1772, and Laurent's map published some twenty years later; in each of which I find, clear as print can make it, Hanging Ditch.

I need scarcely point out that your correspondent contradicts himself when, having dubbed Hanging Ditch "Ranging Dyke," he further asserts that by the latter odd piece of nomenclature Long Millgate was formerly known. Long Millgate and Hanging Ditch, as every one conversant with old Manchester well knows, are two separate and distinct thoroughfares.

And now a word as to the probable derivation of the name. Manchester must have possessed in early feudal times some common place of execution, and

what site more likely than this, near the centre of the town and closely adjacent to the Baron's Yard. Ashton had its Gallows Hill adjoining the old manorial hall. Why not Manchester its "Hanging Bridge" and Ditch? By the way, there is a "Hangman's Bridge" still existing in Nuremburg.

As a proof of the striking transformation which has been wrought in the aspect of this locality (Hanging Ditch), I may remind your readers that, when the remains of the old bridge were exposed to view during some recent alterations, the workmen penetrated to a depth of some twenty-six feet below the present street level without reaching the lowest tiers of masonry.

G. H. R.

* * *

We are often told that a "little knowledge is a dangerous thing;" and as a countryman I may be excused for saying it is especially dangerous when given by a gentleman who adds the letters M.A. after his name, as some people look upon such letters as the "guinea stamp," or on an equality with Q.C., and take any statements they may make as "gospel truth." Now Mr. HESKETH confirms the statements with respect to the naming and the date of naming Hanging Ditch, previously given by "T. J. E." (4,016) as to some absurd tale of dog-hanging about the end of the last century, or at the time my grandfather was being married at the Collegiate Church of Christ, as it is called on his "marriage lines;" and as my family have owned, and still own, property in the Ditch, I have read these letters with special interest and some astonishment.

I have before me a map on which are printed these words:—"A Plan of Manchester and Salford taken about 1650." On this map are printed in large letters, Christ Church, Hanging Ditch, Toad Lane, Mill Gate; also Acres Field, Radcliffe Hall, Mr. Lever's House, and the Cock Pit, off Market Stead Lane. I have also seen one at my mother's, called "A Topographical Plan of Manchester and Salford," by C. Laurent, engineer; published December 9, 1793 (about the time of the dog-hanging), by C. Laurent, geographer; with statement at the bottom, "these plates, with additions, are now the property of John Stockdale, Piccadilly, London. Price £1. 1s. 0d." It appears to me that the word "now" is here worth noticing, showing that the plates were probably old, and had belonged to other persons previous to 1793. Toad Lane and Hanging Ditch are still there, as they were in the map dated 1650, but with the addition of the

two words and abbreviation "Spread Eagle Yd.," which there is little doubt is the place the coaches started from, as named in Note 4,050. There is also a further date of July 22, 1794. Christ Church is here called the Collegiate Church; and Hanging Bridge is the name of a small street leading to Christ Church yard. Both Millgate and Old Millgate are given, but I look in vain for M.A.'s Ranging Dyke.

I have no letters to put after my name, unfortunately, so readers must take these notes for what they may be worth; only I went over to Manchester some months back to look at some curious vegetable leaves and stems, and sent up my card to a certain official, whom I had met at a friend's house a few years back. On being shown into his room I said "You don't seem to remember me;" to which he replied, "Oh yes, I do now, but we always called you Ship Canal, as you seemed to have it on your brain at that time."

J. M. FLETCHER.

* * *

To anyone at all familiar with the past history of Manchester, the origin of the name Hanging Ditch, as given by your correspondent "T. J. E.," and endorsed by Mr. C. W. HESKETH, M.A., has a very comic aspect. The latter refers to the "extraordinary coincidence" that two other well-meaning correspondents, who kindly endeavoured to set "T. J. E." right, should have both fallen "into the same error," and he gravely adds that "T. J. E.'s" version of "how Hanging Ditch acquired its present name" is the "correct" one. That ingenious writer described with some minuteness how his father in his youth, "lad like," had "many a time and oft" taken part in the hanging of certain mad dogs from trees which overhung a ditch, "then a wide open sewer," where the present street, now known as Hanging Ditch, is situate. This "previously was known only as the Ditch, but after the hangings it was afterwards called by its present name, Hanging Ditch." These hangings, which were destined to play such an important part in street nomenclature, we are told with a regard for accuracy which is most creditable, "took place about the year 1800 or 1802," in "the then small town of Manchester." Mr. HESKETH, not to be outdone where a question of local history is at stake, now writes to say that his "uncle Thomas Worsley and the late Moses Mills, artist, were of the party who hung the mad dogs," and they apparently attached so much importance to this event that he has "frequently" heard the matter

mentioned "in the family circle" when he was a child. To establish the identity of this Thomas Worsley, he adds that he was the proprietor of a celebrated stage coach. Now all this is no doubt very interesting, and the details of the story are very prettily worked out; but, beyond being a curiosity in the history of the assumed origin of place-names, it has not the slightest value.

Hanging Ditch is one of the oldest place-names in Manchester, and was so called many hundred years before "T. J. E.'s" father and Mr. HESKETH's uncle pursued their now historic amusements on its banks. It appears to have been a ditch of some thirty feet in breadth and of considerable length, and it is most probable that, as Whitaker suggests, it was the fosse of the Roman encampment, situated on or near the site of the present Cathedral. It is very frequently referred to in old Manchester deeds, and out of a collection of abstracts of many hundred such documents, which have passed through my hands, many might be given in which it is named. I will, however, only refer to two or three which I was examining a few weeks since.

By a deed dated 24 August, 1434, Sir Reginald West, knt, Lord La Warr, granted to John Huntyngh-ton, Warden of the College of the Blessed Mary of Manchester, a piece of land part of "le Hangyngdyche" in Manchester, on the north part of the said Hangyngdyche beyond the cemetery or churchyard of Manchester, containing in length 100 feet and in breadth thirty feet.

By a deed dated 10 Oct. 1520 William Hulton of Farnworth esq. granted a burgage in Manchester, beyond "Le Hangyndyche" between the said Hengyndyche on the one part and the lands of Richard Tipping on the other part.

Another deed dated 4th June, 1531, is a grant of two gardens or a place of land in Manchester of the annual value of 20d., lying in "le Hengyngdyche," between the lands of Seth Galley on the west part, and the high road leading to the Hengyngdyche as far as the cemetery on the other part.

Many other similar instances might be given, and a careful search would no doubt show an earlier reference to Hanging Ditch than 1434, but that would have little bearing on this question. In the first volume of the Manchester Court Leet Records, 1552-1586, recently printed by the Corporation, there are some references to Hanging Ditch and to the Hanging Bridge which crossed it.

Mr. HESKETH at the end of his note says that some maps in the Chetham Library have "Ranging Dyke" marked on them, "the name by which Long Millgate was at that time known." This, if correct, is curious, and perhaps Mr. HESKETH will kindly say more precisely to what particular maps he refers, so that others can consult them to see if this is not either a mis-reading or a mis-print. I need scarcely say that Millgate as a place-name in Manchester is quite as old as Hanging Ditch, and has been so called since the fourteenth century. It is also a street quite distinct from Hanging Ditch.

J. P. EARWAKER.

QUERIES.

[4,058.] HARDMAN-STREET.—When was the name Parliament-street, in Deansgate, changed to that of Hardman-street, and what was the cause of such change?
J. L.

[4,059.] URMSTON, SHAW, AND CARRINGTON HALLS.—I shall be glad of information respecting Urmston Hall, Shaw Hall (at Flixton), and Carrington Hall. Each place, I believe, is at present used as a farm.
J. B.

THE WORKING WOMAN IN FRANCE.—Of all the elements of French society, the *femme du peuple*, at all events up to a certain age, is the most charming, though it is difficult to define with any precision what the charm is. It is not merely a combination of qualities, but a perfume, as it were, exhaled from a happily-arranged bouquet of physical and social attractions. She leads a more toilsome life than her English sister, but somehow without being either depressed or coarsened by it. In her dress she shows the taste of a lady; and even when she condescends to hide her abundant and skilfully-arranged tresses under a bonnet, and to exchange her simple robe for the puffed-out monstrosities of the day—a condescension to which she is alas! more prone than of old—she contrives to lose neither her dignity nor her grace. She is rarely untidy in public, and never a slattern. She is, in a word, pleasant to look upon, pleasant to talk with, lively, artless, womanly, and pleased to please, above all capable of adapting herself in a moment to the situation without pretentiousness and without awkwardness. Alone among Frenchwomen she has the privilege of choosing her husband; and if the exercise of this privilege brings her some misery, the fault lies almost wholly on the man's side. No doubt there is a reverse to this picture, and possibly the going down of the hill is less pleasant to her than to her English sister. But the fact, if it be one, does not detract from her merits, upon which our working-class women might ponder, we think, with some profit to all concerned.—*Spectator*.

Saturday, October 17, 1885.

NOTES.

THE FIRST TEMPERANCE DISCUSSION.

[4,060.] In your early numbers MONA and another have asked for the date of the above discussion between Dr. Grindrod and Mr. John Youil, landlord of the Hen and Chickens, Oldham-street, without eliciting a reply. As I believe MONA is still in the land of the living, permit me to say that it took place in August, 1835.

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield street, Manchester.

BAG AND BAGGAGE.

[4,061.] Mr. Gladstone's use of this phrase is derived or derivable from Vives' advertisement to the English translation of St. Augustine's *Citie of God* (1610), page 1, A. 2. Charlotte Brontë uses the phrase in a letter written from Brussels, dated 13 October, 1843. See Mrs. Gaskell's *Life of Charlotte Brontë*, vol. i., p. 30. I have an impression that I have from a boy been familiar with the phrase.

JOHN JACKSON.

ELECTION PARTY COLOURS.

[4,062.] Are election, otherwise party, colours to be things of the past now that we have vote by ballot and a Corrupt Practices Act? It is thought by many that in most cases they will soon die away. This may be so in boroughs, but in counties they will be almost as much used as ever, at all events whilst the present generation exists. In the days of the Whigs and Tories, when persons of gentle birth were candidates, the colours in the family arms—gules (red), vert (green), or (gold or yellow), azure (blue), &c., were adopted by them and their partizans. The growth of boroughs and of large towns in counties, which caused the employés of the manufacturer to swamp the agricultural voters, the rise of independent and commercial candidates, with no family colours to boast of, caused the adoption of a general colour; therefore throughout England Blue has generally been conceded to the Conservatives and Red to the Liberals.

It is surprising how hard a person living in the country will fight for his colour. The politics of the candidate are often not considered, the fight is for the success of the Red, Blue, Green, or Yellow, as the case may be. Party colours during last cen-

tury grew to such an extent that a large owner of property in Lincolnshire—where the Whig colour was blue—insisted upon the landlord of each public-house he owned putting the word "blue" before the name of his house. We thus got the Blue Lion, the Blue Bear, the Blue Dog, and so on. The practice spread, and we now have dozens of various coloured Lions, Dragons, Bulls, Bells, or others, especially in country places. Of course there may have been a few such names to inns and taverns previous to this time, but there is little doubt that it caused the number to increase considerably.

Blue has always been a favourite colour. It is said to be emblematical of truth, and therefore each political party has tried to have the sole right to it. Chaucer in his *Court of Love* alludes to blue as the colour which is

The signe they were, and ever will be true
Withouten change.

The poetical Earl of Surrey states in one of his poems that the tomb of one deceased was covered with blue, "in token that he was true." The Whigs early last century wore blue, and Hudibras speaks of "Presbyterian True Blue." In 1642 the Parliamentarians adopted deep Yellow, and any person wearing another colour was held to be "malignant" and "ill affected to the Parliament's cause."

Buff and Blue used to go together. Charles James Fox and his admirers wore those colours—blue coats with gilt buttons and buff waistcoats. Some can doubtless remember their fathers or grandfathers so dressed. They gave the health of the beauty of the period coupled with their colours—

Buff and Blue,
And Mrs. Crewe.

Orange and Blue were the colours of William the Third, and the Orangemen of to-day (who are now combining to form themselves into a political party unattached to the Conservative cause) still use it.

In Lincolnshire Blue is the Liberal colour. In Cumberland and Westmorland the political parties have hitherto been known as Blues and Yellows, not as Liberals and Conservatives, the latter being the Yellows. Purple, Pink, and Crimson have been used in addition by Conservative candidates in those counties.

In Lancashire Red is generally adopted as the Liberal colour (with a little green thrown in in one or two boroughs), and Blue as that of the Conserva-

tives; whilst in Cheshire the reverse is the case, with the exception of one newly-formed division I will shortly name.

In West Cheshire the Grosvenors and Egertons (of Oulton) have had some stiff fighting in bygone days. Politics had little to do with the contests. It was the house of Grosvenor against the house of Egerton. The electioneering was real, earnest, and old-fashioned. Heads and bones were broken and enormous sums of money spent. Old men in West Cheshire have delighted to talk about those "grand old times." The Grosvenor colours are Azure and Or in heraldry. I have seen an election in West Cheshire (the first for about forty years) when Egerton of Oulton, on behalf of the Conservatives, successfully contested the seat with a Liberal, who was backed up with all the influence of the house of Grosvenor, and the supporters of the latter wore the yellow daffodil which was then in bloom. The Conservatives wore red and dark blue rosettes; the Liberals yellow and light blue. The celebrated litigation between Sir Richard le Scrope and Sir Robert le Grosvenor about the right to use a particular coat, viz., azure, a bend, or, will perhaps be remembered by readers of English history. After considerable hesitation the Court of Chivalry confirmed Sir Richard's right, but permitted Sir Robert le Grosvenor to use instead, azure, a garb, or (a sheaf of wheat-ripe yellow), which the family still use. After a period of 500 years—the trial taking place in 1386 and lasting until 1389—the family evidently have a fond regard for the bend, or (which it was proved they had used from time immemorial), for it will not be forgotten that the present head of the Grosvenors, the Duke of Westminster, gave that name to his well-known racehorse. A golden sash over the right shoulder may be said to be a kind of bend, or.

West Cheshire and Mid-Cheshire have been remodelled, and the Northwich (or Salt) district formed out of a portion of each. The Conservative candidate has avowed his adhesion to the sanguine colour, and doubtless his Liberal opponent will fight under the auspices of the Blue and Yellow. In the Knutsford division the supporters of the Conservative candidate have decided to stick to the Red, under which colour the Egertons of Tatton have so often been victorious. In the Altrincham division, which is taken out of late Mid and East Cheshire divisions, the Liberals so decidedly object to wear Blue that

they have adopted Red, and both parties hope to win with that colour.

Purple and Orange are the Conservative colours at Norwich, Blue and White being used by the Liberals. In the county of Norfolk the colours of the various candidates have caused the Liberals to adopt Orange and Blue and Orange and White, the Conservatives wearing Pink and Purple.

Dark Blue was the Conservative colour at Preston, Orange the colour of the then Whig candidate Stanley, the Liberal having Green; Henry Hunt, the Radical candidate, adopted Red, but now the accepted Liberal colour, I understand, is Green.

The late Colonel Egerton Leigh, M.P., soon after the passing of the Ballot Act, said he would undertake to say that the way each person voted could be found out within a few days, as nearly every person wore a party colour or told another how he had voted. If party colours are worn, in 99 cases out of 100, there is very little doubt but the man has voted for the candidate whose colours he wears.

C. DAGGATT.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER OLD CHURCH.

(Note No. 4,047, October 8.)

[4,063.] The publication of a copy of the ancient document relative to the Old Church affords an opportunity of drawing attention to the existence of relics within the parish of Manchester connected with the "Quire builded of Wood." I refer to that part of the document which states that "He (Sr. John Huntingdon) builded the Quire of Wood . . . but wt hee built of timber here was in Henry ye Seventh time pulled down when he Patrick (Fabric) of ye Church yt now is was built and the timber was carried to Trafford, Ordsall, and Cleyton, *whre it still remained in outbuildings.*"

My particular object in writing is to draw the attention of your readers, and that of Canon Letts, to the existence of part of the timber structure referred to, in the hay barn attached to what now remains of the homestead of Ordsal Farm. The whole of the pillars and roof timbers of the barn consist of black oak in the rough, and the form of the barn is of such proportions as to justify the assumption that the timber once formed part of an extensive arched roof. The height of the pillars to the springing of the arch is about thirty feet, and the whole of the timber used is of such massive pro-

portions as to preclude the idea that the timber was, in the first instance, intended to be used for the purpose it now serves. In corroboration of this statement, it may be mentioned that when the land upon which the building stands was sold to Mr. Lufkin, the former tenant of the farm, and the present owner of the site of the building referred to, he covenanted with the late Lord Egerton, of Tatton, in the event of the building being taken down for any purpose, to remove the whole of the timber to Tatton Park, his lordship being desirous to retain intact the whole of the timber which once formed part of Manchester's Old Church. It may be added that the present owner will be glad to show the structure to anyone feeling interest in its history. As the whole of the buildings and land upon which they stand has been scheduled for the purpose of the Manchester Ship Canal, it is evident if that work be carried out that Lord Egerton's covenant will be exercised, and that the timber will have to be removed from the neighbourhood of Messrs. Haworth's mills to a resting place outside the ancient Parish of Manchester.

Kersal.

J. B.

HARDMAN-STREET.

(Query No. 4,068, October 10.)

[4,064.] The name of this street off Deansgate was altered about 1840. Parliament-street had an evil reputation as the resort of the abandoned of both sexes, and it was thought desirable not to perpetuate its name.

XIPHIAS.

HANGING DITCH AND LAURENT'S MAP.

(No. 4,057 and others.)

[4,065.] I see frequent reference to Laurent's map in the correspondence respecting Hanging Ditch and Bridge, as if it were a map based on actual survey of positive places. Instead, it was simply a map issued immediately after the "Act for paving, cleansing, lighting, and improving the streets of Manchester" had been obtained. It was a map drawn up, no doubt, by authority, to lay down the lines of suggested improvements, some of which were followed, whilst others were not. Let anyone examine the map and trace the lines of intended streets, drawn across the intersecting lines of hedge-rows in absolute existence when the map was drawn. Let him note the long lines of parallel street crossing at right angles, and the names assigned them, and then think whether those precise streets come within his ken. The actual Manchester of the time ex-

tended little beyond the irregular centre of highways and byeways. For instance, Red Bank was only built up as far as Roger's Brow (not marked upon the map), and by no means so far on the opposite side. St. George's Church was comparatively new, and stood alone on a waste of brick-fields and unbuilt land within my recollection. And so it was in other directions. At the time the original map was published its purpose was understood, and the actualities visibly overpowered the eventualities. Now, without special knowledge, the map is misleading, and having been sent forth broadcast will be more so as time goes by, and the old inhabitants die out carrying memory with them.

In my young days I was told that Hanging Bridge and Ditch was the locality where malefactors had been strung up in "ancient times." Sad dogs, no doubt, but biped, not quadrupedal.

ISABELLA BANKS.

HEE, HEY, AND RES, IN CHESHIRE.

(No. 4,048 and others.)

[4,066.] The word "eea" or "ea," of which the above are simply different forms of spelling, is Anglo-Saxon, and means a stream of running water. At the east of the township of Didsbury, where the Mersey forms the boundary line, is a tract of low land called Didsbury Eea. The same name is used in the neighbouring township of Chorlton to indicate the low level of certain land bordering on the river, the name Chorlton being substituted for Didsbury. This word occurs also in Green-heys and in Hey-houses (a hamlet near St. Anne's-on-the-Sea), and several other places which I cannot at present call to mind.

ANTIQUITAS.

* * *

I have given considerable attention to this subject and I find that a large number of names are common to districts which are remote from each other. I find "Hey" as a field-name in the parish of Rothwell, near Leeds. The signification of this name, as well as many others, seems to be obscure. I will, however, offer a suggestion. It appears that in past times young trees, which were left to stand when a wood was cut down, were called Heyrs. May not our present "Heys" be places that were formerly wooded, and in which the "Heyrs" were left standing? It is evident that the word was not applied to an enclosed field as it is now, as the following quotation from a lease will show:—"Lease dated 5th of July, 1506, from the Prior of Nostal to William Gas-

coinge, Esq., of a toft or croft and sixty acres of land and meadow with the appurts. in Rothwell called le Parson land, whereof eighteen acres lie in *Hey rode*, five acres in *Raw rode*, and twelve acres in the *Hope*." From this we may infer that the eighteen acres were enclosed; but the *Hey rode* (ridding) would be common or waste, and perhaps partly wooded. We have in this part of Yorkshire a good many Hays, but I suspect that this word has quite a different meaning. The Hay or Haigh was in Norman times a park or chase, enclosed with pales. Wherever Hay or Haigh occurs I take it that that place will at some time have been a deer park.

GEORGE ROBERTS.

Lofthouse, Wakefield.

QUERIES.

[4,067.] "NANGPEAVE"-STREET, adjoining Ordsal Lane Station. Whence the name? ONEZ.

[4,068.] THE HORSE SHOE TRIAL.—In the principal room of the Manchester Arts Club there is a large oil painting, by E. V. Rippingille, which has for subject the "celebrated trial of the horse-shoe case, the figures principally portraits." The counsel is holding up a horse-shoe, whilst a witness is giving his evidence to the evident merriment of the whole court. Can any of your readers refer me to an account of the trial? T. M.

[4,069.] STRIKES AND KNOBSTICKS.—How did the term knobstick first come to be applied to a workman who accepted work at a rate of pay against which other workmen had turned out? It would also be interesting to know why those who leave work under such circumstances are said to "strike," or to be "on strike." The expression, when applied to blacksmiths and hammermen, seems to be paradoxical and the reverse of fact. E. W.

Withington.

A CANNY SCOTCH COBBLER.—A Scotch cobbler described briefly as a "notorious offender," has passed his life in a certain "Auld Licht" village without being converted. Last week a Forfar magistrate sentenced him to a fine of half a crown, or twenty-four hours' imprisonment. If he chose the latter he would be taken to the gaol at Perth. The cobbler communed with himself. "Then I'll go to Perth," he said; "I have business in the town at any rate." An official conveyed him by train to Perth; but when the prisoner reached the gaol, he said that he would now pay the fine. The governor found that he would have to take it. "And now," said the cobbler, "I want my fare home." The governor demurred, made inquiries, and discovered that there was no alternative; the prisoner must be sent at the public expense to the place he had been brought from. So our canny cobbler got the 2s. 8½d. which represented his fare, did his business, and went home triumphant: twopence halfpenny and a railway ride the better for his offence.

Saturday, October 24, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HANGING DITCH AND LAURENT'S MAP.

(No. 4,066 and others.)

[4,070.] MRS. ISABELLA BANKS is, I believe, correct in stating that Laurent's map was not based on actual survey, but Green's Map of Manchester and Salford was. In a note to the fifth edition of the *Old Church Clock* the Editor, Mr. John Evans, says, and I believe truly, "Between 1797 and 1801 he (William Green) made a survey and produced in parts a most accurate map of Manchester, which, however, was somewhat superseded by the publication of Laurent's cheaper production." If it be of any importance, therefore, to refer to a map of the above period in order to ascertain the localities of Hanging Ditch and Hanging Bridge, this map might be found useful, and I believe may be found at the Exchange and the Town Hall, and in private hands. Amongst the latter the name of Mr. E. Aston, solicitor, appears in the Editor's note as the possessor of one. B. H. GREEN.

Llandudno.

HORSE SHOE TRIAL.

(Query No. 4,068, October 17.)

[4,071.] The picture of the Horse Shoe Trial, by E. V. Rippingille, was formerly the property of Mr. Robert Carlyle, Upper Brook-street, and was sold to Mr. Muir, together with the history of the picture. The scene is a trial at Lancaster. The barrister, with the horse shoe in his hand, is Mr. Brougham, afterward Lord Brougham; and the defendant is a well-known horse dealer. WILLIAM CARLYLE.

* * *

In one of my note-books is the following memorandum:—"Traditional Lancastrian Horse Shoe Story. See President's Address, Wilts Archæological Society Magazine, p. 129, vol. 14." I think it was also contained in Walkingame's or Molyneux's Arithmetic. To the best of my remembrance the story ran thus:—A niggardly man took his horse to be shod and objected to the charge made by the smith. Thereupon the smith offered to shoe the animal pro rata—a farthing for the first nail, a halfpenny for the second, a penny for the third, and so on, doubling the amount for every nail added to the whole four shoes. To this the horseman assented readily, but stood aghast when the sum total was named and demanded. I do not remember the number of nails in each shoe, but the repeated doubling brought up the sum to something enormous. The horseman—no arithmetician—

refused to pay. The case was brought to trial, horse-shoe and nails produced, and the sum worked in open court, resulting in a verdict for the shrewd and calculating shoemith. I did not know that there was a picture founded on the circumstance.

There was another horse-shoe story—or rather saying—current in Manchester when I was young:—“For want of a penny the nail was lost, for want of nail the shoe was lost, for want of a shoe the horse was lost, and for want of a horse the man was lost.”

ISABELLA BANKS.

MANCHESTER OLD CHURCH: OTTIWELL
HEGINBOTHAM.

(Note No. 4,047, October 3.)

[4,072.] Your correspondent, Mr. SAMUEL ANDREW, of Oldham, asks, “Who was Ottiwell Heginbotham?” the writer of the document about the Old Church. With the assistance of the Vicar of Marple, I ascertain that he was the son of William Heggibotham, of Ludworth, in the parish of Glossop and county of Derby, who married Mary Heggibotham, of Marple, on June 14, 1681. He was their fourth child, born May 15, 1689, and was buried in Marple Chapel, May 25, 1748, aged fifty-nine years. He had two children, Ottiwell, born January 11, 1731, and Mary, March 17, 1734. He seems to have been a cooper by trade. His father (it would seem from the registers of the births of his numerous family) altered the spelling of the name sometime between the years 1686 and 1689 by dropping one of the “g’s” and converting it into Heginbotham. As Samuel Peploe followed Wroe as the eighteenth warden in 1717, and supposing Ottiwell to have written the paper referred to in 1716, he would then be twenty-seven years of age.

There is also a family of Heginbothome of Marple, where the above William’s wife probably came from. Ottiwell Heginbothome (senior) of the Chappelle Houses in Marple, was buried at Marple November 19, 1726. Of course this may be the scribe. His widow was buried in 1747, at Marple. His second child was Ottiwell, born November 26, 1694. It is scarcely likely that he would be the one, as most probably when the document was written he could not be more than twenty-two years old, if that.

The alterations in spelling the name have been numerous, and made in many cases to distinguish the families. An ancestor of mine, William Higginbotham, of Alt Hill, Ashton, altered the spelling in 1762 to Heginbottom—a questionable improvement—for this purpose. The man who, in 1657, gave to the Chetham

Library *Flores Historiarum*, by Matthew, of Westminster, spelt his name Nicholas Higginbotham.

THOMAS HEGINBOTTOM.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

BAG AND BAGGAGE.

(Note No. 4,061. October 17.)

[4,073.] The phrase “bag and baggage” dates back to the time when nearly all travelling was done on horseback, and the traveller’s wardrobe was packed into a couple of leather bags swung across the horse, and known as saddle-bags. A soldier’s belongings are still thrust into bags marked with official symbols; hence the “baggage waggon.” “Bag and baggage,” therefore, meant not only the bag, but all that could be thrust therein and carried clear away.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

This phrase was used earlier than the date given by Mr. JOHN JACKSON. It is to be found in that most delightful of Shakspeare’s plays, *As You Like It*. This was probably written in 1600, but certainly before 1603. In the forest scene, where Celia comes on, reading one of Orlando’s love effusions which she has found hanging on a tree, she encounters Rosalind, Touchstone, and Corin, and desiring to be alone with Rosalind that they may talk over the discovery, she requests the Shepherd and the Clown to leave them. It is when they are retiring that the Clown makes use of the expression in question:—

CELIA.—How now! Back, friends! Shepherd, go off a little.

Go with him, sirrah.

TOUCHSTONE.—Come, shepherd, let us make an honourable retreat; though not with bag and baggage, yet with scrip and scrippage.—Act iii., scene 2.

From the manner in which Touchstone here introduces the phrase, we may conclude it was not uncommon at that time. “Though not with bag and baggage,” as much as to say that is the usual way of making a retreat. Then, again, there was no reason why he should use the expression unless it was a common saying and happened to be at the end of his tongue, because the sense would have been complete without it.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane, Newtown.

* * *

This is to me a very familiar phrase; I have heard it said and read it in books very often. Of course the meaning of “bag” is known to everybody; the dictionary says that “baggage” means the clothing

and other conveniences of a traveller. Therefore one meaning of bag and baggage is a bag and its contents. "Get out with you, bag and baggage," is equivalent to "Pack up your traps and be off," and is one way of giving the "sack;" the person who receives such an injunction is also said to "get the bag."

Again, the dictionary gives a further definition of "baggage," as the tents, clothing, utensils, and other necessities of an army; and in this sense it will have been used long prior to 1610 (the date Mr. Jackson gives), because there was, of course, before that date, an English army, which would speak English, and have used that phrase as meaning what the Romans called "impedimenta."

Thirdly, the dictionary again observes that "baggage" means a woman; probably because they were thus called by soldiers, on account of their being obliged to ride in the baggage waggons.

Fourthly, when used jocosely, baggage signifies a playful, saucy female, and is thus used in many old comedies—"Have done now, you silly baggage."

Lastly, when used in anger or contempt, it is a term for a low, worthless woman, probably from the Italian bagascia (a harlot), French bagasse, Spanish bagazo, Persian бага. "Get out of the room, you—you baggage." That phrase occurs, I believe, in Wycherley's comedy of *The Country Girl*, and similar expressions are used in many other old comedies in this last sense.

"Bags" is also a cant name for trousers, and these, made of a very "loud" pattern, are vulgarly called "howling bags."

ANTIQUITAS.

QUERIES.

[4,074.] THE GIANT'S BASIN, CASTLEFIELD.—Mr. LEARY's mention of the Giant's Cave in connection with what we, then boys, called Guy Faux's Cave, reminds me of the Giant's Basin in Castlefield. It was, if my memory serves me rightly, a well sunk into the red sandstone about five feet diameter, close to the canal locks, on the right-hand side of Castlefield looking from Knott Mill towards the Potato Wharf. The field was then partly covered with grass, and was open from the entrance by St. Matthew's Sunday-school to the canal locks. This would be about 1836. Can any reader throw light on its origin? The well was not far from the remains of the old Roman wall.

C. E. HANDFORD.

Willaston.

Saturday, October 31, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AN ANCIENT DOCUMENT RELATING TO MANCHESTER CHURCH.

(Note No. 4,047, October 2.)

[4,075.] The old document giving an account of the succession of the Manchester wardens, a copy of which was lately contributed to your pages by Mr. S. Andrew, has occasionally been referred to. It long existed as a MS. in more than one form; but I have never seen any of them, nor yet a printed copy. Some of the phrases in the document are introduced into the very excellent *Description of Manchester*, locally published in 8vo., 1783, and drawn up by "a native of the town," a work which was re-issued a few years ago at the price of one penny; whence it may be inferred that the document has been printed. This author (p. 23 of the ed. 1783) refers to "an account printed here of the original foundation of the College, and a succession of Wardens, which was brought down to Warden Wroe." The work alluded to is evidently, as Mr. C. W. Sutton supposes, *An Account of the Wardens of Christ's College Church, Manchester, since the Foundation in 1422 to the Present Time*. London: Printed by W. E. And sold by A. and J. Clarke, Booksellers, at the Bible and Crown, Market Place, Manchester. 1773. 8vo., pp. 16. This was also printed verbatim, adds Mr. Sutton, in *The Manchester and Liverpool Museum*. It has passages which are to be found in the old document.

The anonymous writer we are quoting, describing this tract, says: "The author had certainly seen good records and has reported facts in a style rather pedantic and too diffuse for our narrative. There are some strictures on his characters, a little brightened with the acrimony of party; but as they throw light on the former state of the town and its history we shall endeavour to preserve the order and substance of this account, making such remarks in the course of it as may justify our observations."

The first compiler was a more knowing person than Mr. Ottiwell Heginbotham. The former had access to authentic papers, and had conversed with persons who had preserved some memories of the past. The latter had a copy of the compilation before him, abridged it, ran some sentences (if he is copied correctly) into the wrong context, and unfairly set

his name to it as though he had drawn it up from his own research. One small MS. copy of the original was in the handwriting either of the Rev. Radley Aynscough, M.A., Fellow of Manchester College in 1727, who married a daughter of Dr. Wroe, and who died in 1728, aged 47; or of his son, the Rev. Thomas Aynscough, M.A., Fellow in 1761, who died 1793, aged 74; and one of them made some additions to it. Thomas Aynscough left strict instructions for his sermons, his letters, and papers to be burned, as well as his family pictures; but this MS. escaped the fire. Another copy of the MS., fuller in detail, was in the possession of the Rev. Joshua Brookes, of witty memory, brought down to the date of 1684 or 1686. Some of the language of the document shows that it does not belong entirely to the time of Warden Wroe, though it is quite likely that he, who was devoted to antiquarian study, made a copy of the original. It is possible that these two MSS. were connected, for Thomas Aynscough, just referred to, was the early friend and patron of Joshua Brookes. Where these copies now are I cannot say; but they were still in existence in the time of the Rev. Edward Greswell, the schoolmaster at Chetham College during the first part of the present century; and he seems to have been the last person who made use of them.

Dr. Wroe's name is associated with another memorial of Manchester Church, which by reason of its accuracy would be of extreme value if it could be recovered, viz., a MS. drawn up by Dr. John Worthington, of Manchester, the accomplished theologian. Dr. Worthington, who was born at Manchester in 1618, and paid several visits there from Cambridge, compiled an account of "all the painted glass windows in our church whilst entire, with the histories, inscriptions, and coats of arms in them." This MS. Warden Wroe had often sought after; and he wrote in 1712 to Worthington's son, the Rev. John Worthington, to beg a copy of it if it were among the Doctor's papers.

The document on the Wardens printed in the *City News* is a most inaccurate representation of the original. It is not strictly "a copy of a copy," as described; but a copy made by Mr. Andrew from a copy made by Mr. James Butterworth, jun., from a copy made by Mr. James Kinder from what he curiously calls "an ancient document," but which was no other than a copy made by Mr. Ottiwell Heginbotham from a copy of a copy perhaps further removed from the original! We may

safely free the elder copyists from the outrageous blunders in the present form of it, and throw them on the modern scribes. The more grotesque errors are the following:—The sentence in which William Stanley is said to have had "the whole *hundred* of Bosworth *fields*," should be the whole *plunder* of that *Field*. The reference to the dying out of the heirs of the *Foundations* of the chapels, should be *Founders*. The following curious sentence should thus be altered: "This Sir William Birch was the son of George Birch of Birch by *marrying* [read, by *Mirriam*] the daughter of Richard Beck of Manchester *mert* [read, *merchant*], the founder of Jesus *College* [read, *Chapel*]." The other numerous errors will correct themselves, as, *e.g.*, that Dr. Dee was mathematician to *Charles 1.* The opening statement that Lord Delaware, the founder of the college, was Bishop of Durham, is an error of the original compiler, and it has been followed by Aston and others.

The tract referred to, dated 1773, which is in the Free Library, would help to make a better version of the original.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

PARTY COLOURS.

(Note No. 4,062, October 17.)

[4,076.] Lancashire can scarcely be said to be so uniformly true to the colours generally ascribed to the two distinctive political parties as your correspondent, Mr. CHARLES DAGGATT, would lead his readers to suppose. In Liverpool the colours are the reverse of those under which the respective leaders rally their followers in this district. At the general election of 1868 Messrs. Cheetham and Rawson adopted green as the colour under which they hoped to lead the Liberals of Salford to victory, for the reason that Mr. Brotherton's supporters had been wont to "hang out from their walls" emerald-coloured banners. This colour, somehow, has the effect upon Orangemen similar to what red frequently excites in bulls; and on the occasion of that election the ultra-Protestants mistakingly construed its use as an intentional gibe at their creed, and serious collisions occurred. Since that memorable contest Salford Liberals have, perhaps wisely, abandoned Mr. Brotherton's standard, and for the last three elections their forces have been marshalled, with varying fortunes, under the same colour as their political partizans of the adjoining city.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

STRIKE.

(Query No. 4,69, October 17.)

[4,077.] The origin of the word "strike," used in the sense of workmen quitting their work on account of a decrease of wages, or because they have required a rise, which has been refused, is to my mind obvious. To "strike off" means to erase, to leave; we "strike off" words which we intend shall not be read, and we "strike off" one road, into another one, when we leave it. In the same way, a workman leaving his work has "struck off" work, and this phrase "strike off" is easily ellipticized (if I may coin a word) into "strike," as in conversation and rapid speaking many words are left out (an ellipsis) for the sake of brevity. Again, when the workmen have "struck," sometimes their names are "struck off" the employer's wage-sheet, as belonging to persons no longer in his employ. The use of the word "strike" as a noun, "on strike," is easily derivable from its predicatory use. A similar instance is this: "To look out" is a verbal phrase, "on the look out" is a substantive phrase. A nice question for a debate may be the following: Can a printer be said to strike off work when he leaves it; because when he does "strike off" work, he does not leave it? The dictionary says that "strike off" means to imprint.

ANTIQUITAS.

* * *

I think the following is the origin of the term "strike." Up to recent periods, and even now in the south, grain, &c., is sold by strike measure—round strike or flat strike, as the case may be—and I have as a lad made many of each. This, of course, was, and is, the last process with every Winchester bushel, and means simply "finished." "Tally strike" is the term applied to the account kept of the number of bushels measured, which in my boyish days was always done by notches on a stick; and "strike tally" was always the signal for knocking off work,
B. T.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN IRELAND,—Mrs. Ernest Hart has been trying since the May of 1883, to introduce various cottage industries among the peasantry of Donegal—spinning, knitting, weaving, sewing, and embroidery—and already has achieved a marked success. "We have had immense difficulties to contend with, but are now able to produce hosiery which competes with that made by machinery in price, and beats it in quality and durability." In a sixpenny pamphlet (London: Smith, Elder, and Co.) Mrs. Hart gives a most interesting account of her work.

Saturday, November 7, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MASHKNOPPE.

(Note No. 4,036, September 28.)

[4,078.] I can only hazard a suggestion about this word, which Mr. EARWAKER reports as occurring in a will of Margaret Spencer, of Hurstwood, North Lancashire, dated 1602. "Mash" will be the well-known mixture of bran and water to which the word is still applied. "Knop," in the dialect of Cumberland, is a small tub. A mashknop would therefore be a small tub in which the mash is prepared or carried. In its compound form I have never met with it in any book or manuscript. J. H. N.

THE GIANT'S BASIN.

(Query No. 4,074, October 24.)

[4,079.] I have an indistinct recollection of the well mentioned by Mr. HANDFORD, but I cannot give him the information he seeks respecting it. It is, however, noticeable, that there was more than one "Giant's Basin" in the neighbourhood. Just before the Medlock crosses Knott Mill it falls into a kind of basin. This was called the "Giant's Basin." At Cornbrook, lying in the angle formed by the road to Pomona Gardens, the canal, and the Altrincham Railway, was another "Giant's Basin." Again, the large basin at the potato wharf, Castlefield, is called by boatmen the "Giant's Basin." FRED LEARY.
Fairfield-street.

PARTY COLOURS.

(Notes Nos. 4,62 and 4,076.)

[4,080.] In my note on party colours I stated that "in Lancashire [of course I am speaking of the present time] red is generally adopted as the Liberal colour (with a little green thrown in in one or two boroughs), and blue as that of the Conservatives. Your correspondent, Mr. BEDDOES PEACOCK, states that Lancashire can scarcely be said to be so uniformly true to the colours generally ascribed to the two distinctive political parties as Mr. Daggatt would lead his readers to suppose." He gives Liverpool as a case in point, and also states that in Salford, in 1868, the Liberal candidates adopted green to catch the Irish votes, but now they used red. I don't see why Mr. BEDDOES PEACOCK need have troubled you with his letter if he had correctly read my remarks as quoted above. C. DAGGATT.

WORTHING = MANURE.

(Note No. 4,036, September 26.)

[4,081.] There are three or four instances of the use of the word "worthing" in the Shuttleworth Farm Accounts, published by the Chetham Society (vols. 35, 41, 43, and 46). Mr. John Harland, the editor of the books, suggests that "worthing" is a form or corruption of yearthing or yearding, and gives the meaning as "stuff for earth and soil; dung, muck, or manure." The word, he says, is not given in any of the usual glossaries. Bosworth's Anglo-Saxon Dictionary has "wyrthing," a harrow; and one of the entries in Shuttleworth accounts is "May 1606, a labourer six days yearding [? harrowing] and helping to fill worthing, 18d." I have failed to find the word in any of the extensive series of glossaries (including special collections of old country and farming words) published by the English Dialect Society. It may almost safely be put down as an exclusively Lancashire word, though possibly extending to Cheshire.

J. H. N.

QUERIES.

[4,082.] **LONGFORD BRIDGE.**—On page 388 of the first volume of the *Lives of the Engineers*, by Smiles the reader will find the following passage:—"At the end of the year 1763, by dint of steady work, Longford Bridge was finished and gravelled over, and *the embankment was steadily proceeding beyond the Mersey.*" There is also upon the same page an illustration of the bridge which spans the Mersey at a point between Sale and Stretford, and which is known by the name of "Barfooty" or "Barfordy" Bridge. I have heard it called by both names. The name seems to bear a close resemblance to the words "bare-foot" and "bare-ford," and it has long been known by these names. Can any reader say how it obtained the name, and is the name to be found upon any document, or does it appear in any writings relating to the locality? The author, in the passage referred to above, is evidently mistaken. I have always understood that the bridge which carries the high-road over the canal near the gas works at Stretford was the true Longford Bridge. Any information relating to the above and also to the name "Longford" in connection with the bridge at Stretford will be very acceptable. The words in italics are calculated to convey the impression that the bridge over the Mersey is the real Longford Bridge. This impression is also strengthened by the act of the words "Longford Bridge" appearing under the illustration.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

Saturday, November 14, 1885.

NOTES.**A RELIC OF EARLY RAILWAY DAYS.**

[4,083.] I have in my possession a passenger's railway ticket of 1836. One side reads as follows:—

Liverpool to Manchester.

No. 4. 19 Aug., 1836.
At Half-past 5 o'clock from Railway Station.
Paid 4s. R. B., Agent.
N. B.—When seated, be pleased to hold this ticket in your hand till called for.

(Turn over.)

On the other side, the following is printed:—

N. B.—To prevent loss or mistakes of luggage, Passengers are requested to keep charge of their own portmanteaus, etc., by placing them under their seats instead of on the roof of the coach.

Not'ce.—No gratuity allowed to be taken by any guard, porter, or other servant of the Company.

Smoking in the First-Class carriages is strictly prohibited.

J. Br.

THE EPISCOPAL ADDRESSES OF THE LATE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.

[4,084.] In some of the obituary notices of the late Bishop Fraser, reference was made to certain sermons and reports of his, which had been published before he was appointed to the see of Manchester; but no list has, to my knowledge, appeared of any of his addresses, sermons, or writings, printed in a separate form (and not merely reported in the newspapers) during the period of his episcopate. For convenience of reference in the future, the materials for such a list might advantageously be recorded in the *Manchester Notes and Queries*; and the episcopal addresses, of which the full titles are given below, will, as publications of a distinctly official character, form a suitable beginning:—

1. Charge delivered at his Primary Visitation at the Cathedral, Manchester, and St. Mary's, Lancaster, December 3 and 4, 1872, by James, Lord Bishop of Manchester [112 pp.] Manchester: Thomas Roworth. London: Rivington and Co.

2. Charge delivered at his second Visitation, in the Cathedral, Manchester, and St. Mary's Church, Lancaster, November 9 and 10, 1876, by James, Lord Bishop of Manchester [89 pp.] Manchester: Thomas Roworth. London: Rivington and Co.

3. A Charge delivered at the third Visitation of his Diocese, November 10, 11, 12, 1880, by the Right Rev. James Fraser, D.D., Lord Bishop of Manchester [71 pp.] Manchester: Thomas Roworth. London: Rivingtons.

4. An Address and Admonition, delivered to the Clergy of his Diocese, assembled in Synod, in the Cathedral Church of Manchester, on Friday, November 25, 1881, by James Fraser, D.D., Lord Bishop of Manchester [16 pp.] Manchester: Thomas Roworth, 1881.

5. A Charge delivered at the fourth Visitation of his Diocese at Manchester, Lancaster, and Blackburn, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th November, 1884, by the Right Rev. James Fraser, D.D., Bishop of Manchester [41 pp. and appendices 5 pp.] Manchester: Fargie (late Roworth). London: Griffith, Farran, Okeden, and Welsh. 1884.

There are copies of the first, second, and third Charges at the Free Reference Library, where may also be seen a pamphlet bearing the following title:—

6. Correspondence between the Bishop of Manchester and the Rev. John Rogers, M.A., Vicar of St. James's, Accrington. The Bishop's Declaration of the Law upon the following subjects:—I. Floral Decorations. II. Publication of Banns of Marriage. III. Use of the Black Gown [8 pp.] Price twopence. Accrington: Published by James J. Biggs. 1870.

In the same library there are a few of Dr. Fraser's works published before he was appointed Bishop of Manchester; and there is also a tiny book on *The Transits of Venus, 1639-1874*, by the Rev. Robert Brickel, B.A., rector of Hoole, published at Preston in 1874, to which the Bishop contributed the Preface.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE GIANT'S BASIN.

(Nos. 4,074 and 4,079.)

[4,085.] Referring to Mr. FREDERICK LEARY'S explanation, I would remark that when a boy I always understood that the Basin at Castlefield was the Giant's Basin, and the one at Cornbrook the Giant's Cup.

J. G. M.

[The author of the Query (No. 4,074) asked the origin of the basins. We believe they were constructed to regulate the water in the canal, in some way that a hydraulic engineer could doubtless explain.—ED.]

WORTHING.

(Nos. 4,086 and 4,081.)

[4,086.] Since the publication of my little note on this word, showing that it is a Lancashire word meaning "dung," Mr. C. W. Sutton has called my attention to the fact that it was referred to in the *Manchester Guardian Notes and Queries* in 1874 (Nos. 139 and 188). Referring to these I find that a quotation is given from the Adlington MS. in the

Chetham Library, in which is this passage relating to lands in Stockport in 1577:—"Item it is lawfull for everye man havinge lande in the said felde called Longeshott to leade there *worthinge* throughe the saide Lacy Crofte." And, again, "the lyke libertie ys for carriage of *worthinge* to be sett upon the saide crofte called 'Clarcks lande.'" (The italics are mine.) To this a correspondent adds, "Worthing is a name applied to two places in England: (1) A small parish in the agricultural county of Norfolk; (2) the beautiful watering-place upon the Sussex coast, but which has one drawback to its attractive sands and neighbourhood, viz., the enormous quantity of seaweed floated with the surf on to its level shore. There and for miles round I can testify to the vigour with which the three-pronged fork—i.e., the dung-fork—is in active requisition, and this deposit in general demand for a field fertilizer."

Mr. J. E. Bailey also writes me that "the word worthing is described fully in Randle Holme's *Academy of Arms*, bk iii., 337, with an illustration of the fork. He ascribes the arms to Worthing fork, but this is probably a mistake." Holme's description of a "Worthing Forke" is as follows:—

This is an instrument by which Husbandmen. Yexon or Mexon, that is, cleans [sic] their Stables and Cowe houses from the Beasts' dung, casting it cut to the Muck hill: And from thence with the same Forke or Yelve (or Evill as some call it) cast it into Carts to carry it a way to muck or manure the ground that is for either Pasture or Tillage.

From these quotations and those in the *Shuttleworth Accounts* referred to by Mr. Nodal, it is clear that "worthing" was a well-known word in common use in Lancashire and Cheshire, at any rate, in the seventeenth century, and it is not improbable it may be found used elsewhere.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergale, N. Wales.

LONGFORD BRIDGE.

(Query No. 4,082, November 7.)

[4,087.] Mr. STARKIE is justified in believing that this is the bridge which crosses the canal near the Stretford Gas-works, and its name is probably traceable to that of a family who lived thereabout, I have been informed, fifty or sixty years ago. Longford Hall, the residence of Mr. John Rylands, is in the immediate neighbourhood, and it is possible that the mansion also received its name for the same reason. There is nothing in the quotation italicized by your querist inconsistent with the acknowledged situation

of Longford Bridge, for Smiles, in his compilation, clearly refers to that portion of the canal on the Cheshire side of the Mersey. I have myself always known the bridge which carries the canal over the Mersey as Barefooty or Barfooty Bridge; and although I cannot positively fix either the orthography or the etymology of the latter appellation, still it has to me a distinctly characteristic and local sound. Barfoot, in Stretford phraseology means bare-footed, and as there were formerly in the summer months scores of village lads who availed themselves of the comparatively pure river-water for bathing purposes, and who after a thorough immersion habitually ran bare-footed along the canal bank, so as to dry themselves in the mid-day sun before dressing, I strongly suspect that the name Barefooty or Barfooty may have arisen from this circumstance. There are perhaps in the possession of the Bridgewater Trustees documents relating to both these bridges, though I am not aware of any; but the words Longford Bridge which appear beneath the illustration alluded to by your correspondent are quite erroneous, and have doubtless been placed there by some person absolutely unacquainted with the district, SAM BANNISTER.
Greenheys.

* * *

The following, referring to the above places, is extracted from the *Manchester Mercury*:—

Aug. 2, 1763. We are well assured that coals are now sold at Cornbrook, near Manchester, and at Longford Bridge, in Stretford, for threepence half-penny per hundred, each hundred weighing six score pounds; and, to prevent imposition, tickets will be delivered certifying the same weight.

June 15, 1770. This is an advertisement by certain commissioners calling a meeting to be held at the Unicorn Inn, in Altringham, to assess the damages occasioned by the flooding of the river Mersey in 1768, and damaging or destroying the crops of the following parties, viz.: William Watson of Chorlton, yeoman; John Brundrett of Chorlton, yeoman; Francis Brundrett of Chorlton, yeoman; Thomas Shaw of Chorlton, yeoman; James Renshaw of Chorlton, yeoman; Samuel Taylor of Hardy, yeoman. The floods were alledged to be occasioned by the insufficient size of the canal bridge over the Mersey at Barford Hough damming up and impounding the water. The above-mentioned had applied to Mr. John Gilbert, the known agent of the Duke of Bridgewater, but to no purpose.

Barford or Barfoot Hough is a field on the other side of the Mersey attached to the Edge House Farm, and adjoining the railway, and is in Stretford township.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1856, page 757, is the following:—"Barefoot is not correct; Barford is the proper term; it is of Anglo-Saxon derivation = Beorgford, a ford over a morass, or over a river at the foot of a hill."
J. OWEN.

QUERIES.

[4,088.] WORTHINGTON OF MANCHESTER.—Roger Worthington married Katherine Heywood at Coll. Church, February 25, 1611-12, and had issue—Francis, born 1626; Samuel, born 1628; William, died Feb. 24, 1636-7; John; and Katherine. Francis married Sarah Byrom, at Coll. Church, Sept. 15, 1646. Samuel, bap. Coll. Ch. Jan. 10, 1627-8; married and was buried at Coll. Church March 12, 1645-6. John, who was the celebrated divine, bap. Coll. Church, married Mary Whichcote Oct. 13, 1657. Katherine married James Peak, of Warrington; she died in 1647. I want particulars of any children of Francis, who is said to have carried on the family until it became Worthington of Sharston, near Northenden, Cheshire. Any information either from registers, gravestones, or books will be accepted with thanks.
J. LEIGH.

[4,089.] COCKERHAM.—Whence does Cockerham, near Lancaster, derive its name, and was there a family of the name owning property in the parish?
C. WATERS.

[The name, which is at least 800 years old, has been variously spelt. In Domesday Book it appears as Cocreham, the manor being there described as part of the land of Roger of Poitou. Other spellings, at various periods, are Cokyram and Cokerham. The village is situated on the river Cocker, and Cockersand Abbey stood on a strip of land near the junction of that little stream with the Lune, just where the latter falls into the sea. We have not been able to find any trace of a family of Cockerham resident in the parish. Four persons of the name will be found in the Record Society's *List of Lancashire Wills in the Archdeaconry of Richmond*. These Cockerams or Cockerhams lived at Barwicke, Hutton, and Priest Hutton, all in the northern part of Lancashire. For an account of Cockerham parish, consult the second volume of Baines's *History of Lancashire*, edited by Harland.—Ed.]

[4,090.] MISCHIEF NIGHT.—In that part of Lancashire where I live (viz., Southport) a custom exists as follows:—On the night of every fourth of November the youths take upon themselves to remove many of the gates belonging to private residents. They seem to glory in the sport, and appear to think they have a perfect right to do so,

through custom. They call it "Mischief Night." Does the same custom exist in other places; and does it arise from the mischief Guy Faux intended to perpetrate on the memorable fifth of November?

SOUTHPORT.

[No mention of such a custom appears in Harland and Wilkinson's *Lancashire Folk-Lore*, but the authors of that work say that the evening before May-day is termed "Mischief Night" by the young people of Burnley and the surrounding district. The exchange of sign-boards was formerly a popular pastime on these occasions, but it has been stopped by the police. Now, the young men and women play tricks on each other by placing branches of trees, flowers, or shrubs under each other's windows, or before their doors. These are said to have some connection with "the language of flowers," the various articles having a symbolical meaning. Mischief Night is also similarly observed on the eve of May-day in the district around Goosnargh and Chipping. Mr. Edward Kirk gives an account of the doings in an essay on "The Folk of a North Lancashire Nook," read before the Manchester Literary Club in 1877, and printed in the third volume of that society's *Papers*. The messages here are all conveyed by branches, of which there is a well-understood local language; and Mr. Kirk surmises that the term "Mischief Neet" had its origin in the damage (in the local phraseology "mischief") done in rending off the limbs of trees and trampling down the upspringing garden plants. Perhaps some correspondent may be able to say whether Guy Faux is responsible for a November Mischief Night in any other part of Lancashire.—ED.]

AN HISTORICAL HOME.—Mr. Charles T. Tallent-Bateman, of this city, has printed for private circulation under the title of *A Home Historical*, a sketch of Moor Park in Surrey, now the residence of Mr. J. F. Bateman, F.R.S., the engineer of the Manchester Waterworks. Moor Park is famous for its literary associations. Here Jonathan Swift lived several years as secretary to Sir William Temple; here he wrote the *Tale of a Tub*, and here he first met Hester Johnson, the Stella whose history, with its romance and pathos, is so indelibly associated with the name of the celebrated Dean. Stella was the daughter of the steward of the Moor Park estate, and her cottage is still in existence. At Moor Park, too, during its temporary occupancy as a hydrophatic establishment, Miss Dinah Mulock wrote *John Halifax, Gentleman*; and Waverley Abbey, which is in the neighbourhood, suggested to Sir Walter Scott the name of his first novel. At Moor Park, the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Sir William Fairbairn died. Mr. Tallent-Bateman has done well to bring together the scattered memorials of a place of so much interest. In his description of the park, he tells us that it contains the largest horse-chestnut in England, and the finest oak tree, for its age, in the United Kingdom.

Saturday, November 21, 1885.

NOTE.

THE EYRE FAMILY.

[4,091.] Among some books and papers left by my grandmother which came to her from a Mrs. Fairbrother, I have found the following. I should be glad of any particulars of this Mrs. Fairbrother, who married an Eyre as I am informed. The first paper, of which the following is a literal copy, concerns the origin of the family:—

"One of the most ancient families in Derbyshire is that of the Eyres, of whose origin we have the following particulars from an old pedigree which is still in existence at Hassop. The first of the Eyres came in with William the Conqueror, and his name was 'Truelove.' But in the battle of Hastings, Oct. 14, 1066, this Truelove, seeing the King unhorsed, and his helmet bent so close to his face that he could not breathe, pulled off his helmet and horsed him again. The King said, 'Thou shalt hereafter from Truelove be called Air or Eyre, because thou hast given me the air that I breathe. After the battle the King called for him, and being found with his thigh cut off, he ordered him to be taken care off, and being recovered he gave him lands in the county of Derby in reward for his services, and the seat he lived at he called Hope, because he had hope in the greatest extremity; and the King gave him the leg and thigh cut off in armour for his crest, which is still the crest of all the Eyres in England."

Is there any truth in the report that this was the way they got their name? Perhaps some correspondent can say.

Accompanying the MSS. is a book-plate which shows the thigh cut off. Has any correspondent seen the pedigree at Hassop? There is also an old Bible with the name and date, "Willm. Eyre, 1799." Inside a slip of paper was found with the following certificate written on:—"William, son of Joseph and Proxitia Eyre, was baptized July 13, 1757, as appears by the register of the parish of Dedham, in the county of Essex. Extracted this 7th of August, 1790, by me, R. Fletcher, Vicar." Is anything known of this branch of the Eyre family? E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam, Rusholme.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND
HIS DESCENDANTS.

[4,092.] The notes which, on the above subject, I propose to contribute, in this column, from time to time, are the outcome of several years' research and collection. Most of the particulars and incidents which I shall record are facts hitherto unpublished. Many of the MSS. (old drafts, bonds and memoranda) from which my information is chiefly derived are in my own possession; other sources are the usual authorities consulted by genealogists and family historians—parish registers, gravestones, registers of wills and administrations, chancery and other court records, heralds' visitations, and private Acts of Parliament—while some particulars have been gleaned from muniments and abstracts of title which have passed through my hands, at various times, in the course of professional investigation into numerous Salford, Blackley and Manchester titles. It will not be necessary for me, under the circumstances, to encumber and lengthen and render tedious my numerous and detailed notes, by references to my various authorities with regard to dates and other minor particulars, I promising to exercise the greatest care, and observe the strictest accuracy, in supplying these details—as I always will supply them—from the original authorities only. With regard, however, to the Collegiate Church and other local Church Registers, &c., I shall treat the carefully extracted entries in the handwriting of that practically infallible antiquary, Mr. JOHN OWEN (who has kindly placed those entries at my disposal) as trustfully as I do the original records from which they are taken. Several of my original MSS. I will print *in extenso*.

[To provide for contingencies, commented on by Mr. J. C. BATES in the last issue of the *City News*, I had better announce that I reserve all rights with respect to the republication of my notes.]

1. The Founder, and what has been hitherto published concerning him.

The only persons who have recorded anything noteworthy, or at first-hand, with regard to Humphrey Booth, the elder, the Founder of Sacred Trinity Chapel, Salford, are—(1) The Rev. Richard Hollingworth (the Chronicler of Manchester), for a time minister of the said place of worship; and (2) the Rev. John Booker (formerly curate of Prestwich), well known as the author of several works

containing historical accounts of local chapels. Other historians and topographers have relied practically on Hollingworth, or on borrowers from Hollingworth.

With regard to Mr. Booker, beyond what Hollingworth has told us of the Founder Mr. Booker communicates (in his *History of the Ancient Chapel of Blackley*, 1854) the following items only: (a) The names of the Founder's parents; (b) an abstract, or rather copies of parts, of the Founder's Will; (c) a reference to the Founder's "deed of gift" of his Blackley estate in favour of his younger son; and (d) two apparently exhaustive pedigrees of two branches respectively of the Founder's family.

With respect to the pedigrees, I shall be able to rectify and supplement both to a considerable extent: with respect to what Mr. Booker terms the "deed of gift," I will show it to have been a marriage settlement, executed on the marriage of the Founder's younger son, and will supply several particulars on the subject of that marriage: with respect to the will I hope to add additional (direct and collateral, intrinsic and extrinsic) information of interest: and with respect to the Founder's ancestry, I will devote considerable time to the discussion of the question—what connection, if any, is there between the Founder and the Booths of Dunham or the Booths of Barton?

All the information—and it is but scanty—that Hollingworth gives us in his *Mancuniensis* I will set out in my next note, so as (1) to show clearly what are the particulars here published for the first time; (2) to enable other correspondents to add to the (small) stock of information of which the public are already possessed.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BARFOOT BRIDGE.

(Nos. 4,082 and 4,087.)

[4,093.] There is a *Burford* Lane marked on the one-inch Ordnance map as running from Agden to Heatley, with a southerly continuation in almost a direct line through High Leigh to Great Budworth, and a northerly continuation to Warburton, and so to Hollins Ferry on the Mersey.

H. T. C.

MISCHIEF NIGHT.

(Query No. 4,090, November 14.)

[4,094.] At Barton Moss a custom prevails on the fourth of November of scouring the neighbourhood

in search of stray cats and dogs, and when a good supply is collected the villagers assemble at midnight at the north-east corner of the Moss (close to the First Manchester No. 2 target) and stretch a line between two trees. Each cat is then tied tail to tail with a dog and the pair are thrown over the line, where they are allowed to fight until first blood is drawn, when they are released and another pair is thrown over in their place. This union of dog and cat is held to be symbolical of the infamous union between the Radcliffe family and Guy Faux. These "mischiefs," as they are called, are generally attended by the young people of both sexes, even the fair daughters of the good families in the district not objecting to accompanying their gallant lovers to see the poor victims of the sport tortured. When the line is cut down parkin is distributed by the town crier, after which one solitary sky-rocket is fired, and then all go home.

J. W. THISTLETON.

Birch View, Old Trafford.

[The officials of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will perhaps make a note of this, and be present on Barton Moss on the next fourth of November.—ED.]

WORTHINGTON OF MANCHESTER.

(Query No. 4,088, November 14.)

[4,095.] The following entries relative to the Worthington family of Manchester are extracted from the Cathedral Registers:—

- 1612. Feb. 25. Roger Worthington and Katherine Heywood, married, Katherine, dau. of Robert Heywood was bap. Oct. 28, 1587. I don't find the bap. of Roger Worthington.
- 1615. Sept. 29. Anne, dau. of Roger Worthington, bap.
- 1617. Feb. 8. John, son of Roger Worthington, bap.
- 1620. Aug. 27. Edmund son of Roger Worthington, bap.
- 1621-2. March 24. William, son of Roger, bap.
- 1624. Oct. 15. Francis, son of Roger, bap.
- 1627. Dec 21. Katherine, dau. of Roger of Manchester, draper, bap. [This baptism of Katherine appears to be an insertion.]
- 1627-8. Jan. 10. Samuel, son of Roger, bap.
- 1629. April 17. Robert, son of Roger of M., bap.
- 1636. Feb. 26. William, son of Roger, buried.
- 1638. April 22. Robert, son of Roger, buried.
- 1649. Aug. 23. Roger Worthington of Manchester, woollen draper, buried.
- 1651. Feb. 19. Katherine, wife of Roger of Manchester, woollen draper, buried.
- 1646. Sep. 15. Francis Worthington and Sarah Byrom, married. [Sarah, dau. of Edward Byrom, was bap. March 20, 1624.]

- 1647. Jan. 30. Katherine, dau. of Francis Worthington, bap.
- 1649. Oct. 14. Sarah, dau. of Francis, bap.
- 1651. Oct. 12. John, son of Francis of Manchester, draper, bap. [In 1653 and 1654 the baptisms are missing for about six months.]
- 1657. April 2. Francis, son of Francis of M. draper, bap.
- 1658. Oct. 20. Mary, dau. of Mr. Francis, bap.
- 1668. Francis Worthington, woollen draper, buried Sep. 10.
- 1664. Sarah, wife of Francis Worthington, buried Oct. 3.
- 1678. Francis, son of Francis Worthington, buried Sep. 23.

J. OWEN.

QUERIES.

[4,096.] LIBERAL.—When did this term as a name for a political party supersede the old title of Whig? What was the origin or cause of the alteration?

RADICAL.

[4,097.] SAMUEL BAYLEY.—Sir Thomas Baker, in his *Memorials of a Dissenting Chapel*, page 84, says that Samuel Bayley married for his first wife Esther, daughter of James Diggles, of Booth Hall, and both he and his wife are buried at Cross-street Chapel. In Booker's *Blackley*, in the pedigree of Diggles, it is stated that Esther, wife of Samuel Bayley, died December 30, 1772, and was buried at St. Ann's. Will some reader say which is correct?

J. LEIGH.

OLD MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

I.

To Nathaniel Butler, who lived in the reign of James the First, were our forefathers indebted for the first-printed English newspaper. Some years ago Mr. Watts, of the British Museum, exploded the long-prevalent idea that the *English Mercurie*, dated 1558, was the progenitor of English journals, as he pronounced it a forgery, and traced the concoction of it to the second Lord Hardwicke. It has since been discovered that the *Weekly Newes*, published by Butler, was the first.

The first Manchester paper of which we have any record was the *Manchester Weekly Journal*, advertised as containing the "freshest advices both foreign and domestic." The editor and printer of it was Roger Adams, father of Orion Adams. The price of it was one penny, so we see inhabitants of Manchester enjoyed a penny paper one hundred and sixty-six

years ago. This paper continued to appear until 1725, when Mr. Adams removed to Chester, where he started the *Chester Courant*, in which appeared a series of articles afterwards published in book form under the title *Manchester Vindicated*.

Five years after the departure of Adams an enterprising printer in this town, Henry Whitworth, started a paper called the *Manchester Gazette*. It appeared on December 22nd, 1780, but after existing seven years the title was changed to the *Manchester Magazine*, and the price raised from one penny to threehalfpence. Of Henry Whitworth, the printer, little is known beyond the fact that he was the master of Joseph Harrop, who was himself afterwards a printer. No complete set of this paper is in existence, but the late Mr. James Crossley possessed many numbers of it, and amongst them the last (3,414) which appeared on Tuesday March 25 1760. After the year 1745 the *Magazine* was the organ of the Whig and Government party. Henry Whitworth was succeeded in business by his son Robert, who continued to carry on the paper until 1760 when it ceased. He survived until 1772, dying on the 27th of October in that year.

For twelve years the *Magazine* enjoyed the monopoly of the town, but in 1752 a formidable rival appeared. In that year Joseph Harrop issued from his shop opposite the Exchange the first number of the *Manchester Mercury* which continued to appear every Tuesday afterwards. On the appearance of the ninth number the title was changed to *Harrop's Manchester Mercury and General Advertiser*. It was embellished with a curious woodcut representing the interior of a printing office. Of the editor, Joseph Harrop, some few particulars may be interesting. He was, when very young, apprenticed to Henry Whitworth, the publisher of the *Gazette*, and afterwards he started for himself and carried on an extensive business as a publisher as well as printer. From his house issued two editions of Seacombe's *House of Stanley* (1765 and 1783), and Mrs. Raffles' *Cookery Book*, long the standard book of its class. His best known publication, however, was a beautiful large-paper copy of "Honest John Byrom's" Poems, which made its appearance in 1773. About the year 1785 he retired from business in favour of his son, James Harrop, and went to reside in Salford, where he died Jan. 20, 1804, aged seventy-six, having served the office of boroughreeve in 1792. The set of the *Mercury* which belonged to the family is now in the Chetham Library, and it is needless to

say how valuable a reference book it remains. Old Harrop furthered the sale of his paper by issuing, in 1764, a new "History of England in weekly numbers," in addition to the usual information. The *Mercury* also obtained earliest London and foreign news, as messengers were employed to meet the London mail at Derby and bring the news express.

In the same year as the *Mercury*, a paper was started entitled *Orion Adam's Weekly Journal*, which was advertised to appear on the first Tuesday of every month. The editor, son of Roger Adams, seems to have been an extraordinary character. After becoming successful as a journeyman printer in Birmingham, Manchester, Plymouth, and Dublin, he got into loose habits and became almost a beggar. One year he was driving through Birmingham in a grand carriage, and the next he was acting as programme seller to some travelling showman. He died at Chester, April, 1797, in the greatest want.

This journal was followed, in 1756 by the *Manchester Journal*, printed by J. Scholefield and Turnbull, which appeared on March 2, and after a chequered career ceased in 1756, in 1762 by *Anderton's Universal Advertiser or Manchester Chronicle*, and in 1771 by *Prescott's Manchester Journal*. The first of these two was printed at the "Shakespeare Head," near Market Cross, and appeared every Tuesday, the second being printed by John Prescott in Old Millgate every Saturday. Neither existed very long.

On June 23 a rival to the *Mercury* appeared when the first number of *The Manchester Chronicle* was issued from a press in Hunter's Lane by Charles Wheeler. This Charles Wheeler was the son of John Wheeler, whose name frequently occurs in connection with the old Manchester Theatres. His son died in 1827, and left the paper to his son James, the father of the late Sergeant Wheeler, and James Wheeler, the editor of a volume of poems entitled *Manchester Poetry*. The subsequent history of the *Chronicle*, after the death of James Wheeler, was short. In 1838 the paper was purchased by the Conservative body, and on January 5, 1839, it appeared as the *Manchester Chronicle and Salford Advertiser*, published by Josiah Leicester. It finally ceased in 1852.

Eleven years elapsed after the appearance of the *Chronicle* before anyone ventured to start in opposition to the *Mercury* and *Chronicle*. In 1792, however, two publishers, Messrs. Falkner and Birch, started (March 31) a new paper, *The Manchester*

Herald, which advocated Liberal measures. On December 10 of the same year an attack was made on the premises of the editor by a disgraceful political mob, and the whole place was wrecked. The loss sustained by this riot was never made up, and the paper ceased on March 23, 1793, after an existence of little under a year. The senior partner, Mr. Fulkner, died at Burnley, March 8, 1824, in his eighty-fifth year.

The ill success attending endeavours to start papers did not debar Messrs. T. Bowden and William Cowdroy from venturing to float in March, 1795, the first number of the *Manchester Gazette*. William Cowdroy was born in 1752, and died in Manchester Aug. 10, 1814. He is described as a man of rare genius—a poet, a wit, a facetious companion, an unshaken patriot, a kind father, a firm friend, and a truly honest man. It was owing no doubt to Cowdroy that the *Manchester Gazette* managed to live. A host of small papers now began to appear, notably the *Manchester Telegraph and Weekly Advertiser* (No. 1, Jan., 1803); the *Mercantile Gazette and Manchester Daily Advertiser* (Aug. 6, 1803); the *Argus* (1803), and the *Townsman* (1803, Dec. 7). Of these the *Mercantile Gazette* is said to be the first daily paper out of London, and it originated with Dr. Solomon. The *Argus* was published by a man who was afterwards noted in Manchester as a publisher, author, and printer. Joseph Aston, the originator of this and numerous other papers in Manchester, was born in 1762 in Manchester. He was the son of William Aston, gunsmith, Deansgate, and in 1803 he opened a stationer's shop in Deansgate, whence he issued the prospectus of the *Argus*. From 1808 to 1825 he edited the *Manchester Exchange Herald*, and after that date he removed to Rochdale, where he started the *Rochdale Recorder*. He died at Chadderton Hall, October 19, 1844. Besides editing these papers he was the author of, amongst others, three plays, entitled *Conscience*, *Retributive Justice*, and *A Family Story*. In addition he wrote a *Manchester Guide*, a *History and Description of the Collegiate Church*, a *Lancashire Gazetteer*, a *Descriptive Account of the Manchester Exchange*, and *Metrical Records of Manchester*. Of his other papers more anon.

The *Townsman* was a small weekly theatrical review, which held its own for about three years. It was edited by James Watson, more commonly called "Doctor" Watson, an eccentric celebrity of this town. He was the son of an apothecary in Manchester, and was born in Booth-street, in this

city, in 1775, and entered at the Grammar School, June 18, 1785. In 1789 he was apprenticed to a fustian manufacturer, but he would not stay there, so he returned to this city and became bookkeeper to a cotton merchant, and here he continued until his father's death. After that event he helped his mother in the shop, but by the help of some friends he got the post of librarian at the Portico Library, Mosley-street. Getting into drunken habits he was ashamed to remain there long, so he became usher in a school kept by Henry Race at Altrincham. For a time he was steadier, but on getting mixed up with his old friends he once more returned to his old habits and left his place. Afterwards he was often without a home, and often he climbed the railings at St. Peter's to sleep under the porch. His only means of sustenance was money gained by occasional contributions to the Manchester papers. He used to take long walks to his friends, and stay a day or two with each in turn, but during one of these walks he disappeared, and his body was found in the Mersey at Didsbury, June 24, 1820.

In the next article the writer will notice the more important papers and their editors up to the year 1830.
E. P.

A TOURIST'S VIEW OF IRELAND.—A Bradford gentleman, who writes under the pen-name of Johnnie Gray, has published through Messrs. Brear and Co., of Kirkgate, Bradford, a description of a tour in Ireland undertaken in the summer of 1884, when, as he says, the outbreak of cholera on the continent led an unusual number of English excursionists to visit various places of attraction in their own country instead of going abroad. Mr. Gray went to Ireland, and during his stay there traversed most of the southern and western counties. He travelled with an open mind, made inquiries in all quarters and from authorities of diverse kinds, and incidentally throws a good deal of light upon the social, religious, and political condition and prospects of the country. He gives evidence, for example, of the almost entire disappearance of sectarian animosity in Mayo and the West, a result due, according to Protestants as well as Catholics, to the Irish Church Act. He shows by abundant facts and details that poverty and the want of capital are the main causes of the backward state of Ireland. There is a pleasant account of a visit to Oliver Goldsmith's Auburn—"loveliest village of the plain"—and descriptions of other places rarely resorted to by tourists; and the little book, by its obvious fairness, its shrewd observations, and its abundant information may be profitably consulted by all who care for the material and social interests of the country, or who intend at any time to follow the author's example and see Ireland for themselves.

Saturday, November 28, 1885.

NOTES.

THE WORSLEY FAMILY AND THEIR CONNECTION
WITH MANCHESTER.

[4,008.] It may be of interest to many Manchester people and others to know that Sir William Cayley Worsley, Baronet, of Hovingham, one of the candidates for West Salford, is a descendant of the great Protector, Oliver Cromwell. He is also a descendant of the well-known General Worsley, the first member of Parliament for Manchester (in the Long Parliament); and it is understood that it was this officer who so promptly carried out the order of his superior to "take away that bauble."

The family of Worsley, or Workesley, as it was anciently written, were lords of the manor of Workesley (Worsley), near Manchester, at the time of William I. They continued in possession of the Worsley Hall Estate for many centuries. It is certain they were in possession in the time of Henry VIII. One branch settled at Hovingham, in Yorkshire, and the present baronet is the lineal representative. The family retained, and still enjoy, certain manorial rights over the several manors and unclosed lands so long held by their ancestors in the county of Lancaster.

To show the descent from Oliver Cromwell I would say that Cromwell's fourth daughter married Sir John Russell, Bart. His daughter, Elizabeth Russell, married Sir Thomas Frankland, Baronet. Their daughter, Mary Frankland, married, in 1710, Thomas Worsley, of Hovingham. This lady (Mary Frankland) received a marriage present of £4,000 from her near relative Mary, Countess of Fanconberg, third daughter of the Protector. The eldest son of this Thomas Worsley, by the great granddaughter of Cromwell, was Thomas Worsley, whose son George married Annie, daughter of Sir Thomas Cayley, Bart., of Brompton Hall. William, son of this George, was created a baronet in 1838. By his wife (the daughter of Sir George Cayley, Bart.) they had issue (amongst others) William Cayley Worsley, the present baronet, the recent but unsuccessful candidate for West Salford, who is married to the only child of Marcus Worsley, Esq., of Conyngham Hall.

C. DAGGATT.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

II.

[4,009.] 1. The Founder and what has been hitherto published concerning him (continued).

Hollingworth, in his *Mancuniensis*, has the following, and only the following, references to the Founder:—

Anno 1617, was the faire and large galery in the [Collegiate] Church built, which wee comonly call the Loft, at the charges of some private men, especially of Humfrey Booth, of Salford, Gentleman; and the yeare after, seates were leased out to Sir Edmund Trafford, Knight; Humfrey Davenport, of Salford, Esq.; Oswald Mosley, of the Ancoates, Esq., and others that were benefactors, during the terme of their naturall liues respectively.

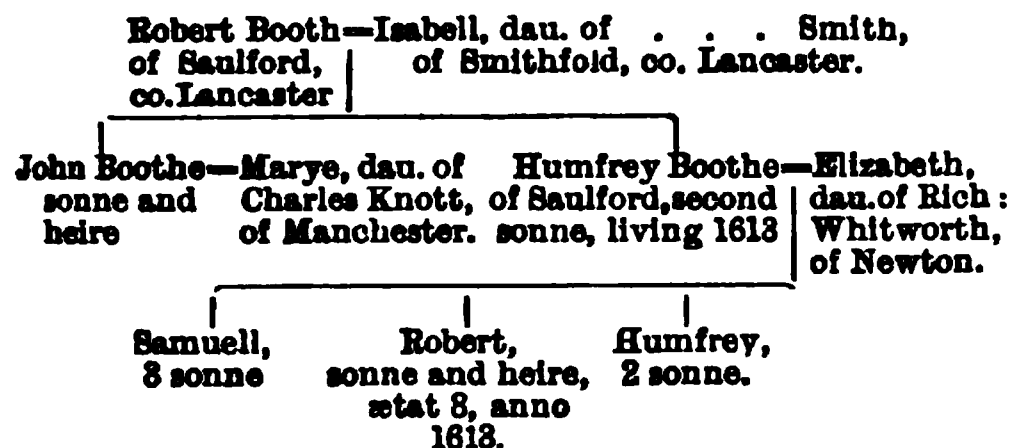
(p. 111 of Willis's edition, 1839.)

Anno 1634. Humfrey Booth, of Salford, laid the foundation of Trinity Chappell, in Salford, and of his owne cost (save that about two hundred pounds was given by severall persons:—Sir Alexander Radcliffe, of Oardsall, twenty pounds; Henry Wigley, twenty pounds; Robert Pendleton, twenty or forty pounds; Charles Haworth, ten pounds; John Hartley, twelve pounds; John Gaskell, five pounds; George Scholes, ten pounds; Ralph Bayley, five pounds; and others lesser summes) did finish it, and endow it with twenty pounds lands per annum: the sayd Humfrey Booth, being, by God's blessing on his trading, made rich, gaue also to the poore of Salford the first lands that he bought to the value of twenty pounds per annum, and payd it duely all his life time. Hee being in greate weakness, earnestly desired that hee might liue to see the chappell finished, which hee did, but immediately after the solemne dedication of it, by the Bishop of Chester, hee more apparently weakened, then hee earnestly begged that he might partake of the Lord's supper there, and then hee would not wish to live longer. It pleased God to revive him in such a measure, as that hee was able to goe to the chappell constantly till hee was partaker of the supper (which could not bee done of some moneths after the consecration) in the chappell, and was neuer able to goe forth after, nor scarce to get home. Hee was a man just in his trading, generous in entertainment of any gentlemen of quality that came to the towne, though meere strangers to him, bountifull to the church and poore, faithfull to his friend, and we hope, God gave him both repentance for, and remission of his sinns, in the blood of Jesus.

(pp. 117-8 of same edition.)

With regard to the Founder's parents and their family, I will not quote Mr. Booker, as he is so very far wrong with regard to the few constituents of that family, but will copy here—what practically covers everything that the Blackley historian gives us (correctly) on that subject—the minutes of pedigree,

compiled by St. George in his visitation of Lancashire in 1613. (Harl. MS., 1437, fo. 10 b.—printed by the Chetham Society in 1871.)



(These minutes, which were signed by the Founder, contain, it is important to notice, no reference to the arms claimed or used by that gentleman.)

In my next note I will amplify the above short pedigree, or section of pedigree, by adding dates and other particulars not before published.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SAMUEL BAYLEY.

(Query No. 4,097, November 21.)

[4,100.] J. LEIGH inquires whether Sir Thomas Baker is correct in stating in his *Memorials of a Dissenting Chapel*, page 84, that Samuel Bayley married for his first wife Esther, daughter of James Diggles, of Booth Hall, and that both he and his wife are buried at Cross-street Chapel; or whether the Rev. John Booker is correct who, in his pedigree of Diggles in the *History of Blackley*, states that Esther Diggles, wife of Samuel Bayley, died December 30, 1772, and was buried at St. Anne's. The reply to this inquiry is that the statement in the *Memorials* is correct. Mr. Booker's entry in the Pedigree at page 38 of his history of the ancient Chapel of Blackley is singularly incorrect and confusing. It runs thus:—

Esther Diggles mar at Blackley=Samuel Bayley
of Manchester Chapel in 1741 ob Dec 30 1772 ob
March 5. 1778 bur at St. Anne Manchester.

Instead of Esther Diggles dying on December 30, 1772, she died September 12, 1758. Her remains were laid in Cross-street Chapel, and those of her husband were placed beside them nearly twenty years afterwards. It was a second wife of Samuel Bayley who died, not as Mr. Booker writes on December 30, 1772,

but on December 27, 1772. This second wife was Esther, daughter of Robert Hibbert, and she was buried in the churchyard of St. Anne's. The gravestone, with her name on it and date of her death, as I have given it, adjoins the wall which separates the churchyard from the passage leading from St. Anne's-street to the backs of the houses which front King-street.

THOMAS BAKER.

OLD MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

II.

I now continue an account of the newspapers which appeared subsequent to the *Townsmen*.

In 1804, soon after the death of his father, James Harrop started a second paper, the *British Volunteer*, the first number of which appeared on the last day of June in that year. In 1804 the volunteer enthusiasm was at its height, and in launching his new venture, Harrop did well to give it the name he did, as it immediately gained popularity. James Harrop was born in 1757, and died February 22, 1823. Besides being a publisher, he performed the duties of postmaster of this town. As editor for his new paper he engaged the services of John Vint, who had for some time acted in the same capacity in the office of the *Mercury*. Born either in Alnwick or Newcastle, John Vint was apprenticed to a bookseller in his native town. At the expiration of his apprenticeship he removed to London, where he became sub-editor of the *Morning Post*, but accepting a tempting offer held out to him by Joseph Harrop, he came to this town, where he remained many years. Finally he removed to Douglas, where he edited *The Isle of Man Weekly Gazette*, and in that town he died on March 18, 1814.

On the first day of the next year, Joseph Aston, whose *Argus* had not turned out so successful as he had expected, started a new paper called *The Manchester Mail*. It was a sixpenny paper, appearing every Tuesday. An account of the starting of this paper, with a copy of the original prospectus, is given by Procter in his *Memorials of Manchester Streets*. This second venture turned out for Aston no better than the first, but four years later he started a paper which proved a success. This was *The Manchester Exchange Herald*, which appeared on the last day of September, 1809, from the office in St. Anne's-street. For some years this deservedly popular journal continued to appear.

The demand for papers, daily or weekly, seemed to be satisfied; so in 1814 a monthly magazine was started as a new venture. It bore the title of *The Manchester Magazine or Chronicle of the Times*, and was published by Joseph Hemingway and Martin Began. It held its own against varied difficulties for two years and then ceased.

The year after its disappearance, a paper was started by Howarth Cowdroy, son of the founder of the *Gazette*, and Rathbone, called the *Manchester Courier*. This paper had no connection with the present paper of that name. It soon ceased. Another unfortunate paper was the *Manchester Observer*, which was published on January 3, 1818, by Thomas Rogerson. It ceased June 21, 1821, but during that time it changed hands many times. James Wroe, of Ancoats, was one of the proprietors, but his connection with it seems to have brought him into serious trouble; for in the course of four months he was summoned no fewer than thirteen times for libel. Mrs. Wroe and a shopboy were taken into custody for merely vending the paper.

This unfortunate venture was followed by others equally disastrous to the proprietors. In 1818 *The Manchester Spectator*, printed by Thomas Wilkinson for John Knight, appeared, followed in 1819 (Aug. 28) by the *Patriot*, printed and published by Joseph Aston, and in the same year by the *Recorder*, printed by John Leigh and edited by Joseph Macardy. These long-since-forgotten newspapers call for no remarks.

In the early part of 1821 suggestions were thrown out by several well-known citizens that it would be a good plan to start a paper on Liberal, or, as it was then called, Whig principles. The idea met with universal support, and on the 5th May the first number of the *Manchester Guardian* appeared. The printers and publishers were Messrs. John Edward Taylor and Jeremiah Garnett, and the original office was No. 52, Market-street. In 1826 a Wednesday edition was started, and afterwards became a daily paper and as such remains. John Edward Taylor was a native of Ilminster, in Somersetshire, being born there September 11, 1791. His father was the rector of the parish. Originally intended for the medical profession, circumstances changed his course in life, and he was apprenticed to a gentleman in business who took him into partnership. He turned his attention early to journalism; the columns of Cowdroy's *Manchester Gazette* were always open to him, and he furnished lively accounts of political

agitations. In 1820 he accepted an offer held out to him to become editor of the *Guardian*, and he continued to hold that post until his death.

Between the birth of the *Guardian* and that of its rival the *Courier*, several unimportant papers were started only to die a quick death. In 1821 the Roman Catholics started *The Catholic* (Nov. 24), edited by Rev. Mr. Gilbert, of Antigua, but it afterwards changed to *The Catholic Phoenix*, and the editor's chair was filled by a surgeon named Grimes. This was followed six days later by a newspaper called the *Northern Express and Lancashire Daily Post*. It was a daily paper printed in Stockport, but published in Manchester. After a chequered existence of three months it died. The *Manchester Iris* was started on the 2nd of February the next year (printed and published by H. Smith), and it held its own for a year, dying on February 27, 1823.

The next year two unimportant papers, or more properly speaking magazines, were started, which but for one fact would long since have been forgotten. The first was *Johnson's Selector*, printed by John Leigh, and edited by a then unknown man, William Harrison Ainsworth. The fact that he was the editor of this has been overlooked by most of his biographers. It did not last long, and in the same year the future novelist started *The Bæotian*, published by Thomas Sowler. *The Bæotian*, a small magazine of eight pages, started on March 20 and ceased on April 24, 1824. The editor, principal contributor, and responsible man was Ainsworth, and only one sketch, that on the Chetham Library, has been traced to other hands, and these were Mr. Crossley's. A copy of this magazine came into the Free Reference Library from Mr. Crossley's sale, and it was a presentation copy from Ainsworth to Miss Fanny Ebers (afterwards Mrs. Ainsworth).

The *Guardian* by the beginning of 1825 had gained a sound footing among the Manchester newspapers, but in that year a formidable rival appeared. This was *The Manchester Courier*, which appeared on January 1. It came from the office of Thomas Sowler, No. 4, St. Ann's Square. The editor, Thomas Sowler, was the son of Mr. Sowler, the partner of Russell, the printer, in Manchester, his mother being one of the Ainsworth's. At an early age he was sent to the Manchester Grammar School, but he was afterwards removed to a school kept by Mr. Stollerfurth at Chester, where he attracted the favourable attention of Dr. Majendie,

Bishop of that see. His father placed him afterwards in the establishment of the well-known bookseller James Lackington, but in 1814 young Sowler left London and settled in Manchester, marrying in the same year the daughter of John Slack of this city. He died November 1857. The present proprietor is Colonel Sowler, who was born in 1818, and entered the Grammar School ten years later. He is well-known as a staunch Conservative, and in the elections now taking place he has taken a great interest. He is Lieutenant-Colonel of the Manchester Artillery Volunteers, having risen to that post from a gunner. The first editor of the *Courier* was no less a personage than the late Alaric A. Watts.

The next paper to start was the *Manchester Advertiser*, conducted by Stephen Whalley, the first number of which appeared on July 2, 1825, but it only existed a few months. In 1828 the *Manchester and Salford Advertiser* (No. 1) appeared, and was the property of licensed victuallers by whom it was conducted, but afterwards it passed into the possession of Mrs. Leresche and George Condy. The same year Archibald Prentice, the historian of the Anti-Corn Law agitation, started a Radical organ called *The Manchester Times*, a weekly paper, the first number of which bore date Saturday, October 17. The next paper to be noticed is the *Voice of the People*, published for the proprietors by John Hampson in 1831. This Hampson, who died suddenly October 1832, was noted for his knowledge of botany and entomology.

At this point the writer ceases, having sketched shortly all the important papers which appeared from 1719 to 1821, a period of unusual importance in the history of this city. It may be here noticed that in 1881 the number of magazines and periodicals published in this town was fifty-two. E. P.

THE RIGHT SPELLING OF PEERS' NAMES.—Dod's *Peerage and Baronetage* points out that the proper spelling of certain family names is as follows: Argyll, not Argyle; Athole, not Atholl; Ailesbury, not Aylesbury; Anglesey, not Anglesea; Caulfeild, not Caulfield; Clonmell, not Clonmel; Feilding, not Fielding; Donegall, not Donegal; Guilford, not Guildford; Ingestre, not Ingestrie; Kingsale, not Kinsale; Lyttelton, not Littleton; Middleton (Viscount), not Middleton (Baron); Milltown (Earl), not Milton (Viscount); Fitz-William, not Fitzwilliam; Mount Cashell, not Mountcashel; Nevill (Abergavenny), not Neville; Neville (Braybrooke), not Nevill; Montagu, not Montague; Rosebery, not Roseberry; Westmorland, not Westmoreland; and Winchilsea, not Winchelsea.

Saturday, December 5, 1885.

NOTES.

TYLEBROD.

[4,101.] This curious word occurs on page 115 of Booker's *History of Didsbury and Chorlton Chapels* (vol. 42 of Chetham Society, 1857), in a quotation of an indenture made 16 Nov., 1478 (18 Edw. IV.) between Sir Nicholas Longford, Knt., and Bartin Bamford, whereby Bamford agreed to settle upon his son John and his intended daughter-in-law, Margerie Longford, a "lawfull astate of landes . . . to the yerly value of xls" . . . and to "leeff unto the seid John his son . . . landes . . . to the yerly valewe of viij li. . . without the xls of *Tylebrod* be fore g'unted." The context requires some such meaning as "marriage-portion," but the dictionaries omit the word, and it may be conjectured to be related to the Masonic verb, "Tile, to cover;" and Halliwell's Lincolnshire "Broda, money," thus meaning "covert-money." H. T. C.

THE GRANTS OF BURY AND MANCHESTER.

[4,102.] The following copy of the obituaries of the Grant family, from the gravestone of the Unitarian Chapel, Bury, may be acceptable:—

Mary, daughter of William Grant, of Strathspey, North Britain, died 13th day of Nov., 1784, in her eighth year.

Also Elizabeth, his daughter, now of Grant Lodge, near this town, died 17 Nov., 1808, in her thirty-fifth year.

Also Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Grant, of Manchester, and daughter of Thomas Worthington of Sharston, in Cheshire, died Oct. 19, 1816, in her twenty-first year.

Also the above-named William Grant, died June 29, 1817, in his eighty-fourth year.

Also Grace, his wife, died May 16, 1821, in her seventy-ninth year.

Also Charles, son of the above William and Grace Grant, died July 9, 1825, aged thirty-seven years.

J. OWRN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

NANGPEAVE-STREET.

(Query No. 4,067, October 17.)

[4,103.] The eccentricity of this name is due to nothing more remarkable than the dismemberment of a letter. It originally read "Nangreave-street." What may be the origin of the latter word I cannot

say, but should imagine it was a family name. It may be of use to know that the street was declared a highway under this name in 1858; also that the broken letter will be replaced in a day or two.

A. B.

Pendleton.

WORTHINGTON FAMILY OF MANCHESTER.

(Nos. 4,088 and 4,095.)

[4,104.] I should be glad to know whether Samuel, baptized Jan. 10, 1627-8, was married; and whether John, born in 1652, and Samuel, born in 1662, are his sons. I also want to know who Richard is, who was born 1651; is he the same as the one who married Dorothy Diggles, Feb. 18, 1698-9, and had he any children? I find in Palmer's Pedigree a Samuel born 1692, Thomas born 1690, and Richard buried 1697. My thanks are due to Mr. JOHN OWEN for his valuable help. Where shall I find any notes of John, son of Dr. Worthington?

J. LEIGH.

MISCHIEF NIGHT.

(Nos. 4,090 and 4,094.)

[4,105.] I think your Old Trafford correspondent has been misinformed respecting mischief night at Barton Moss. I have been in the habit of going down to the Moss frequently for some years, and most certainly never heard of the custom before. I wrote to a friend who lives close to the range, who now writes "that he has lived close to the place for years and has never seen anything of the sort; and though he has made inquiries from older residents, he has failed to find anyone who has seen or heard of the custom previous to this inquiry." I would also remind Mr. THISTLETON that the First Manchester range is at Astley, and not at Barton Moss.

W. B.

Ashton.

SAMUEL BAYLEY.

(Nos. 4,097 and 4,100.)

[4,106.] In printing my Reply the lines of Mr. Booker's entry in the Pedigree at page 38 of his *History of the Ancient Chapel of Blackley* have been run into each other. I have therefore to ask you to admit this correction into your next publication. The entry in the Pedigree is as follows:—

Esther Diggles mar at Black-	Samuel Bayley of Manches-
ley Chapel in 1741. Ob	ter ob March 5 1778
Dec. 30 1772 bur at St	
Ann's Manchester	

This entry if corrected would stand thus:—

Esther Diggles mar at Black-
ley Chapel in 1741, ob
Sep 12, 1758, bur. at Cross-
street Chapel, Manchester

Samuel Bayley of Manches-
ter. He married as a
second wife Esther daugh-
ter of Robert Hibbert who
died Dec. 27 1772, and was
bur. in St Ann's Church-
yard.

Samuel Bayley died March
5 1778 and was bur. at
Cross-street Chapel

THOMAS BAKER.

THE GIANT'S BASINS.

(Nos. 4,074, 4,079, and 4,085.)

[4,107.] I have in my possession a small work entitled *A Description of Manchester*, "giving an historical account of those limits in which the town was formerly included, and some observations upon its public edifices." The print is modern, and it is evidently a copy of a former work, of which the following extract will give the date:—"There is an opening left for a bridge over the river at the bottom of Dole Field, which is now building by subscription, the first stone being laid on Tuesday, May 6, 1783." The work also contains a list of wardens from John Huntington to Dr. Asheton, with a brief history of each of them. The following extracts may throw some light on the objects of these basins. Speaking of the Medlock and the Irwell, it says the former was "taken into the canal, and the waste water discharged over a curious weir, which was much admired at the first construction, but the mud which has been deposited by floods has greatly disfigured it, although the work seems thereby to have acquired greater stability." Speaking of the construction of the Bridgewater Canal, it says:—"It was carried with ease on the declivity along Old Trafford to Corn-brook. This rivulet made an obtuse angle with the intended course of the canal under the high road, and was so near the level that an elevation for a bridge could not take place to carry it over; hence a circular weir was made to raise it even with the canal and convey the overplus water in floods underneath. From Cornbrook it was brought to the Medlock, and that river raised to the level by a circular weir, with a grand hexagonal basin, the contour of which may yet be traced from the height of Castle-field; but the floods have nearly wrecked it up."

FRED. LEARY.

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

THE EYRE FAMILY.

(Note No. 4,091, November 21.)

[4,108.] A member of the Derbyshire Eyre family, William Eyre, now resides in Buxton, in good health, at the ripe age of eighty-four, "feeling as well," as he told me to-day, "as when fourteen." He considers, and has tried to prove, that he is the lineal descendant, the next heir, to the long-disputed title and estates of the Earldom of Newburgh. Locally he is known as the "Earl of Newburgh," and is believed to be the rightful heir. He and my uncle—the late Brian Bates, of Buxton Hall—married sisters; and twenty-five years ago, much time and money were spent in trying to prove this claim to the extinct title and the estates now occupied by aliens. Though, locally and socially, no doubt exists as to the rights of "the claimant," there are one or two missing links required to satisfy the legal mind. These missing links were, unfortunately, destroyed many years ago by an uncle Benjamin, who wantonly and maliciously burnt certain writings and documents—a fact very much to be deplored. A branch of the Derbyshire Eyres, centuries ago, settled in Ireland, where the descendants are still flourishing. Twenty years since a member—or should I say a twig—of that branch (Colonel Eyre) came to Buxton. He heard of the attempts to establish the above William Eyre's claim, and sought an interview. It is curious, but true, that when the Derbyshire Eyre (the claimant) and the Irish Eyre were brought together—making allowance that one was a man of education, and had moved in "society," and the other had received only the ordinary education and enjoyed the social surroundings of a country tradesman—anyone would have asserted they were brothers—they were as "like as two peas"—so well had form and features been preserved, although the ocean, circumstances, and centuries had separated the branches of this old family. The meeting was a very amicable one, and ended in mutual respect and recognition as members of the same ancient family. Our Buxton William Eyre is a handsome old man, with a grand type of face. Give him the ermine and a coronet, and he would make a very respectable addition to the House of Lords. J. C. BATES.

Buxton.

QUERIES.

[4,109.] OLDHAM DIRECTORIES.—Is there an older directory of Oldham than the one published in

1818 by T. Rogerson, Market Place, Manchester, in his General Directory of Lancashire? T. D. S.

[4,110.] CANNON-STREET.—How did Cannon-street, Manchester, come to be called Cannon-street, and is there any reference made to the origin of the name in any of our local works? I have heard it stated that it is owing to the fact of some old cannon being used for stumps at the entrance to side streets and hovels. Some few years since two such stumps were to be seen near the entrance to an archway on the opposite side to the *Courier* office. They were placed there evidently for the purpose of confining the traffic within certain limits, and to prevent lurry wheels from crossing the kerbstone. I have also heard that these cannon were employed in the defence of Manchester during the siege in the Civil War. If this is true, ought not such interesting relics to find a safe resting place in one of our museums? Procter, in his work on the Manchester Streets, makes no reference to them, and so far I have been unable to find any allusion to them in any other local work. I have a very distinct recollection of them, and can say truthfully that, if they were not real cannon, they were made to resemble them very closely. With the muzzles pointing upwards, and the interiors filled with dirt and stones, they were once a very familiar sight. Not being able to find anything authentic relating to them, it naturally makes one chary about accepting the story of their use in Cromwellian times. There is another similar post in Lloyd-street, near the corner of Cooper-street, but this does not so nearly resemble a cannon as the two I used to see in Cannon-street. It would be interesting to know if there really is any truth in the statement with regard to their ancient use. The practice of using old cannon for posts is common, in seaports especially. In making a hasty search I may perhaps have overlooked something bearing directly upon it.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library, Manchester.

THE RULE OF THE OLD IN EUROPE.—M. Grévy has been re-elected President to the French Republic for a period of seven years. He is seventy-eight years old. Old men are at the helm all over Europe. Mr. Gladstone has just completed his seventy-sixth year. The Emperor William is eighty-eight, and Prince Bismarck seventy. In Russia M. de Giers is sixty-five, and in Italy Signor Depretis is seventy-four.

Saturday, December 12, 1885.

NOTES.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

III.

[4,111.] 2. The Founder's immediate relatives.

The Founder's father, Robert Booth, is, in an old parchment (part of my collection), dated 1st September, 1563, and intended to have been made into a deed poll, but never completed, described as "Robtus Bothe, de Salforde, in com. lanc., yoman." In this document (the whole of which, written in abbreviated Latin, I may print, as an appendix, at the end of my notes), a suit-at-law is mentioned in which the Founder's father is the complainant, and John Booth and "Elena," his wife, are deforciant, or respondents; but the relationship of this John Booth to his nominal opponent is not shown. John and Ellen Booth may have been the parents of Robert Booth, or (as I think, more likely) his brother and sister-in-law respectively. The entries in the Parish registers seem to establish that Robert Booth, the Founder's father, had an elder brother, John, who had a son of the same name, and another son, named Humphrey; but with this question I will deal more fully in my next note.

Robert Booth's wife (who was his survivor) was buried at the Collegiate Church, 17th August, 1591. There appears to be no parochial or other record of the death of Robert Booth himself, and, though he was possessed of freehold property in Salford, no record of his will. I have, however, not yet been able to see the copy—the only one extant—(Harl. MSS. 1991, Brit. Mus.) of the will, of a Robert Booth, which was proved at Chester in, or about the year 1576. This may be the will of the Robert Booth in question, as he would seem to have died before 1576, and before the commencement of the present Cathedral register.

The Founder's elder brother, John, was married at the Collegiate Church, 24th June, 1583. He died before his wife, and was, we learn from the latter's will, buried in the Collegiate Church. His widow's will was proved at Chester, and from the defaced remains of that document (as published, in 1884, by

the Chetham Society, from the notes of the late Rev. G. J. Piccope) I am able to give the following particulars. In this will, dated 8th April, and proved 6th May, 1600, the testatrix is described as "Marie Booth, of Salford, widow," and her wish is expressed to be buried in Manchester Church, as near as conveniently may be to her late husband, John Booth. She mentions "Humphrey Booth, brother of my late husband," "my eldest son, John Booth," "my son, George Booth, and his two uncles, Humphrey Booth and Richard Knott," "Robert Smith, of the Smith Fold," "my daughter Margret Booth," "my brother, Richard Knott," and "my daughter, Mary Booth, and my daughter, Isabell Booth."

In my next note I will give the names, with the dates of baptisms and other particulars, of six of the children of John and Mary Booth, and also particulars of—what I claim to be—the Founder's cousins, the children of John Booth, of Salford, yeoman, whom I regard as the uncle of the Founder. My notes on the Founder's five children I will postpone until I have exhausted all the particulars I possess with regard to the Founder himself.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY INCIDENTS.

[4,112.] The following curious paragraph is from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1731:—

As soon as I have got the £10,000 (the sum he imagined he would win in the lottery) I'll marry Grace Tours; but as she has been cross and coy I'll use her as a servant. Every morning she shall get me a mug of strong beer, with a toast, nutmeg, and sugar! Then I will sleep again till ten; then I'll have a large sack posset. My dinner shall be upon table by one, and a good pudding. I'll have a stock of wine and brandy laid in. In the afternoon, about five, I'll have tarts and jellies, and a gallon bowl of punch. At ten a hot supper of two dishes. If I'm in humour Grace shall sit down. Go to bed about twelve.

As a contrast to the above, and in the same journal, for the month of April, 1739, is the following, copied verbatim:—

The notorious Richard Turpin, and John Stead, were executed at York for horse-stealing. Turpin behaved in an undaunted manner; as he mounted the ladder, feeling his right leg tremble, he stamped it down, and looking round about him with an unconcerned air, he spoke a few words to the topsman, then threw himself off, and expired in five minutes. He declared himself to be the notorious highwayman Turpin, and confess'd

a great number of robberies, and that he shot the man that came to apprehend him on Epping Forest, and King, his own companion, undesignedly, for which latter he was very sorry. He gave £3. 10s. to five men who were to follow the cart as mourners, with hatbands and gloves to them and several others. He was bury'd in St. George's Churchyard, in a neat coffin, with this inscription:—"F. P. 1739. R. T. Aged 28." The mob having got scent that his body was stole away to be anatomiz'd, went to the place and brought it away . . . on men's shoulders, and filling the coffin with lime, bury'd it in the same grave. He was first apprehended for stealing a game-cock, at Welton, near Brough, in Yorkshire, where he had lived since the proclamation against him, under the name of John Palmer, by dealing in horses, which he sold to gentlemen whom he used to hunt with.

A description of this noted highwayman is given in a previous volume. It reads thus:—

It having been represented to the King that Richard Turpin did, on Wednesday, the 4th of May last, barbarously murder Thomas Morris, servant to Henry Tomson, one of the keepers of Epping Forest, and commit other notorious felonies and robberies near London, his Majesty is pleased to promise his most gracious pardon to any of his accomplices, and a reward of £200 to any person or persons that shall discover him, so as he may be apprehended and convicted. Turpin was born at Thacksted, in Essex, is about thirty, by trade a butcher, about five feet nine inches high, brown complexion, his cheek bones broad, his face thinner towards the bottom, his visage short, pretty upright, and broad about the shoulders.

In the number for April, 1731, is the following account, which will serve to illustrate the severity of the law at that period:—

Mary Lynn, condemned last assizes for the county of Norfolk, was burnt to ashes at a stake, for being concerned in the murder of her mistress.

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library, Manchester.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

CANNON-STREET.

(Query No. 4,110, December 5.)

[4,113.] Was this street made so early as your correspondent CHARLES W. STARKIE seems to imply? The eastern portion does not seem to have been formed until between 1754 and 1766. At the former date the site formed, as appears from old deeds, part of a close called the Little Croft. "It was near a street or place called the Withengreave." B.

THE WORSLEY FAMILY AND MANCHESTER.

(Note No. 4,098, November 28.)

[4,114.] Mr. CHARLES DAGGATT states that Sir William Cayley Worsley, baronet, of Hovingham, is a descendant of the well-known Lieutenant-General Worsley, of Cromwell's time. According to the Rev. John Booker, in his *History of Birch Chapel*, the Lieutenant-General Charles Worsley was succeeded by his eldest son Ralph; he had an only son Charles, and Charles but one son, Peter, who grew up to man's estate; he died unmarried in 1759, leaving the estate to his sister Deborah, who married John Lees, and there being no issue the estate was left to John Lees's son by a former wife.

But Lieutenant-General Worsley had another son by his second wife, viz., Charles Worsley of Oldham. He left one son, Ralph; and Ralph had four sons, Charles, John, Roger, and Thomas, the eldest of whom was born in 1724. But as Mr. DAGGATT states that Thomas Worsley of Hovingham married Mary Frankland in 1710, and was already settled at Hovingham, it evidently was not one of them; and consequently the Worsleys of Hovingham are not descended from Lieutenant-General Worsley, unless Mr. Booker's Pedigrees are wrong. Probably they branched off from the Worsleys at some earlier period.

F. M.

QUERIES.

[4,115.] SHIP-SHAPE.—I should be glad to learn the origin of the word "ship-shape," so much used by the Lancashire people. MURIEL.

[4,116.] CHESHIRE TAXATION AND DAIRY PRODUCE.—Could any reader oblige me with the average taxation (imperial and local) payable, say per acre, upon an ordinary Cheshire dairy farm; also the average number of cattle to area and the average produce of cheese per head per annum? A return with the taxation under the different heads, as nearly correct as possible, would be exceedingly useful in assisting me with a statistical return I have in hand. M. S.

RALPH'S PIPE.—An interesting relic of the famous Sir Walter Raleigh was sold in London last week by auction. It consists of Sir Walter's original tobacco pipe, which is said on a certain memorable occasion to have so excited the disgust of Queen Elizabeth. It was the property of the late Rev. Dr. Neligan, who had formed a remarkable collection of curiosities of all sorts

Saturday, December 19, 1885.

NOTES.

LANCASHIRE DIALECT.

[4,117.] A few words may be gleaned from Harrold's Diary, 1712, as given in *Manchester Collectanea* [vol. i.], Chetham Society, 1866 :—

At. "I think twice at it," p. 182.

Buled—Handled. "She had teem'd ye berm of o' th 2 buled pot," p. 180.

Cant—Mending. "She was cant," p. 189. "Wife cants finely," p. 203.

Clipt—Embraced. Saw Ann, and clipt her a bit," p. 196.

Dateless. "Rambled at night till I was dateless and tired," p. 184.

Either. "I gave C. S. and W. A. either 1d. worth of ale," p. 184.

Houghting. "Houghting and coughing," p. 187.

Hallches—Nooses, snares. "I have her upon hallches," p. 198.

Recant—Mend. "She says that she will be buried at . . . So I promised she shall except she recant," p. 190.

Raff. "I bought up all the raff," p. 204.

Swap. "Swapt and unswapt with R. P. to please wife," p. 175.

Slick. "He has grown my size, slick out and out," p. 207. H. T. C.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

HRE, HEY, AND EES.

(No. 4,046 and others.)

[4,118.] Enough has already been written on Ees, which is derived from Anglo-Saxon ea=water, an island; and is applied to low-lying land near rivers. I propose to illustrate more fully the use of the word Hay or Hey in English place-nomenclature.

I. ETYMOLOGY.—Hay or Hey is derived from a word in Anglo-Saxon, which is found under four varieties of spelling, viz., haga, hage, hege, hæge, and signifying—(1) a hedge, and (2) that which is enclosed, as a field. See Bosworth. Professor Leo, in his *Local Nomenclature of the Anglo-Saxons*, says, p. 62—"HAGA: Every lesser estate, indeed even a single field, was called haga, since every particular property with the Anglo-Saxons was enclosed. The strong masculine inflection hege (gen. heges, or heages) signifies a hedge, a fence; and haga, a plot of ground fenced in and surrounded by hedges."

II. MEANINGS, or uses in English place-names:—
(1). A field. (2). A farm. (3). A small district containing perhaps several fields; a hilly range of pasture. (4). A township. (5). A town.

III. EXAMPLES in Cheshire and adjoining counties. N.B. The following abbreviations are used;—dt.=district; fd.=field; fm.=farm; h.r.=hilly range of land; r.=range of land; sm.=small; tn.=town; tp.=township; v.=village. In giving the direction from a town or other place the letters e, w, n, s, n.e., n.n.e., denote the points of the compass—as, "n.n.e. Stalybridge,"=north-north-east of Stalybridge.

CHESHIRE.

Name and Description.	Locality or Township.
Cockshead Hey, fm.	Bollington.
Light Hay, fm.	n. Buglawton.
Heybridge Lane, sm. v. and lane	Butley.
Broad Hey, fm.	Disley.
Potter's Hey, (?) r.	ditto
Hawk's Hey, fm.	e.s.e. Hazel Grove.
Hague, sm. v.	Hollingworth.
Clough's Hey, fm.	Lyme Handley.
Lower Heya, sm. dt.	n.e. Macclesfield.
Lumber Hey, fm.	Marple.
Hooley Hey, fm.	Rainow.
Hey Head, fm.	n.n.e. Stalybridge.
Kershaw Hey, fm.	ditto
Miller Hey, fm.	ditto
Blake Hey Wood	Shrigley.
Bollin Hey, fm.	Styal.
Hey Wood, r.	e. Tintwistle.
Swines Hey, fm.	Woodford.

DERBYSHIRE.

Ashover Hay, fm.	Ashover
Milnhay Lawn? fm.	n. Belper
Bowden Heya, fm.	Bowden Edge
Corn Heys, fm.	Bowden Edge
Hall Heys, fm.	Bradshaw Edge
Cow Hey, fd.	Lidgate fm., Bradshaw Edge
Danehey, fm.	Combs
Hey Lee, three fms.	ditto
Old Hey, fd.	Ailstone Lee, Combs
Old Hey, fd.	Rye Flat fm., ditto
Abey Hay, fm.	Darley Dale
Old Hay, fd.	Darley Dale
Calf Hey, fm.	Fernilee
Cow Hey, fd.	Brown Hill fm., Fernilee
The Heya, fd.	Shaw Stile fm., ditto
Parsley Hay, fm.	n.n.e. Hartington
Hayfield, tn. and tp.	
The Hay, fm. or r.	n.w. Hayfield
Hay Clough	n. Hayfield
Bank Top Hay, r.	Hope Woodlands
Calf Hey Wood	ditto
Cote Heys, r.	ditto
Hey Ridge, h. r.	ditto
Hey Ridge, fm.	ditto
Ox Hey, h. r.	ditto
Cotmanhay, sm. v.	Ilkeston

Name and Description.	Locality or Township.
The Hays, fm.....	Kirk Ireton
Wood Hays, fm.	Ludworth
Ox Hey Wood	s.e. New Mills
Hay Dale... ..	s. Peak Forest v.
Hague, fm. or sm. v.	Staveley
Hay House, fm.	Wardlow
Wardlow Hay Cop, hill.....	ditto
Hague Fold, fm. and sm. v.....	Whittle
Sabine Hay, fm.	e. Winster
Sabine Hay Wood	e. ditto
Ashleyhay, tp.	s. e. Wirksworth
Ildridgehay, tp. and v.	s. ditto

LANCASHIRE.

Hays, fm.....	e.s.e. Accrington
Bank-hay, fm.	n.n.e. Blackburn
Mickle Hay, fm.	n.n.e. ditto
Stopping Hey, fm.....	n.n.e. ditto
Greenheys, dt.....	Chorlton-on-Medlock
Hays, fm.	s. Church
Abbey Hey, v.	Gorton
Heywood, tn.	
Stonehey, fm.	n.w. Huncoat
Hackin's Hey	Liverpool
Harpurhey, tp. and v.	n.n.e. Manchester
Brean Hey, fm.	s. Milnrow
Cow Hays, fm.....	s.e. ditto
Hey, f.m.	s.e. ditto
New Hey, f.m.....	s.s.e. ditto
Moor Hey, fm. or v.	e. Oldham
Hey Hurst, fm.	n.e. Ribchester
Moor Hey, fm.....	n.n.w. ditto
Beal Hay, fm.	n. Shaw
Hey Side, v.....	s. ditto
Cuerdale Hey, fm.	e. Walton-de-Dale

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Jack Hays, fm.	s.s.-w. Bagnall
Ox Hay, fm.....	s. Biddulph
Ford Hayes, fm.	s.e. Bucknall
Hanley Hays, sm. v.	e. ditto
Bony Hay, dt.....	near Cannock Chase
Broad Hay, fm.	n.n.e. Cheadle
Hay Wood	n.e. ditto
Heybridge, v.	Checkley tp.
Brinsay, fm.	n.w. Cheddleton
Hollin Hay Wood, and fm.	n. ditto
Park Hays, fm.	n. Endon
Old Hay, fm.	n. Leek
Ox Hay, fm.....	n. ditto
Ox Hay Wood.....	s.w. Onecote
Rough Hay, fm.	n.w. ditto
Trent Hay, fm.	n.e. Stoke-on-Trent
Fag Hays, fm.....	n.e. Tunstall

YORKSHIRE.

(Border adjoining South-East Lancashire, Cheshire, and N. Derbyshire).

Cow Hey, h.r.	} Bradfield tp., near N. Derbyshire
Hey Bank, h.r.	
Netter Hey, h.r.	
Hey Clough	
Grange Hey, h.r.	n. Denshaw

Name and Description.	Locality or Township.
Old Hey, fm.....	s. ditto
Ox Hey, h.r.....	e. ditto
Hey, v. and chply	s.w. Dobcross
Black Hey Nook, fm.....	e.n.e. Friar Mere
Ashway Hey, h.r.	Greenfield
Hey, fm.	n. w. Marsden
Hey Green, fm.	w.n.w. ditto
New Hey, ? 2 fms.	s.w. ditto
Shaw Hey Moss, h.r.	n.w. ditto
The Haigh, h.r.	wnw. ditto
Hey Dike, ? r. ..	} s.s.e. ditto
Hey Green, fm.	
Hey Brinks, fm.	
Hey Sike Clough	

We see from the foregoing lists, that the form "Hey" prevails in Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and N. Peak of Derbyshire; and the form "Hay" in S. Peak and Mid-Derbyshire, and Staffordshire.

THOMAS HALLAM.

Ardwick, Manchester.

NOBSTICK.

(Query No. 4,069, October 17.)

[4,119.] Some time ago I saw a query in your columns asking for the origin of the above word. On looking over the MS. of my forthcoming *Annals of Cheshire* I find the following:—"1824. December 7. The *Stockport Advertiser* of this date contains the origin of the term 'nobstick.' This occurred at the Chad Kirk Printworks. One of the workmen was told by his master that another had taken his place in consequence of his continued absence, whereupon the workman, lifting up his walking-stick, replied emphatically, 'See, yo, mester, he's no better nor th's nobstick.' The term at once became a bye-word amongst the operatives in the district, and was applied to such workmen as supplanted others against the rules of the unions then in existence."

E. W. BULKELEY, F.R.Hist.S.

Didsbury.

CANNON-STREET.

(Query No. 4,110, December 5.)

[4,120.] Your correspondent Mr. STARKIE says "he has heard that the iron posts formerly placed at the corners of Cannon-street had originally been cannon, and that they had also been used in the defence of Manchester during the Civil War." If he would care by a personal examination to satisfy himself as to the genuineness of this theory, he will find some five of these posts, exactly similar to those lately in Cannon-street, to be still left. Two of them are at the corners of Friday-street and High-street, three others,

muzzle end up, are in the narrow street immediately adjoining. Those placed at Friday-street and High-street corners are breech uppermost, but, alas, for the cannon theory, are without trunnions, there is no touch-hole; and as if to still further simplify matters, upon the breech appears the trade mark "Shelf Iron Works, near Bradford," showing the birthplace of these weapons. If after this visit, Mr. STARKIE still thinks they are worth preserving as relics in a Manchester museum, may I recommend that they be placed in company with that interesting piece of stone work discovered at Cobham by Mr. Pickwick, and which, after puzzling the antiquarians of the neighbourhood, was found, after a deal of controversy, to have been the original handiwork of

BILL STUMPS.

Heaton Chapel.

QUERIES.

[4,121.] DOWNING-STREET, ARDWICK.—When and under what circumstances did Downing-street, Ardwick, receive its present name? In Laurent's Map of Manchester it is called Ardwick-street.

D. H. J.

[4,122.] ROWLANDSON.—Did Rowlandson as well as Williams illustrate *Johnny Newcome in the Navy*? In my copy of the work the illustrations, which are in the style of Rowlandson, are by Williams.

H. B.

[4,123.] MANCHESTER WESLEYAN PREACHING PLACES LAST CENTURY.—Will any of your readers who may be in possession of Circuit plans or other old documents, kindly give me a list of the Wesleyan preaching places in and about Manchester at the latter end of last century?

BROWN.

[4,124.] INCH DARNE.—At page 138 of vol. i. of *Manchester Collectanea* (Chetham Society), in an article about a Manchester Directory of 1788, mention is made of "Roger Aytoun, Esq., of Chorlton and Inch Darne." "Chorlton" is Chorlton Row (C.-on-M. now-a-days), but where is Inch Darne?

H. T. C.

[4,125.] PRINCE WILLIAM RADZIWIŁŁ.—Can any reader inform me concerning the above? I have an interesting letter, written by him to Captain Jones, father of Ernest Jones, who then appeared to be aid-de-camp to H.R.H. Duke of Cumberland. The

letter is dated from Berlin, August 18, 1820. Any particulars concerning his life and his connection with Captain Jones will be gladly received.

E. PARTINGTON.

[4,126.] CHANCERY LANE, ARDWICK.—I remember being told some time ago by a very old resident that Chancery Lane, Ardwick, formed portion of what was formerly known as "Love Lane," which ran across from Stockport Road into the fields now occupied by Every-street and the adjacent property. Can any reader tell me whether this is correct, and, if so, under what circumstances this particular portion of the old lane received its present name?

THOMAS PEARSON.

[4,127.] OLD MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.—It is with no little pleasure and profit that I read the articles on "Old Manchester Newspapers" contributed to your columns by "E. P." I see no mention, however, of an offshoot from the *Manchester Times*, started in 1834 or 1835 by Mr. Prentice, and first called the *Cheshire Times*. In 1836 I find it referred to as the *Cheshire Examiner*. I should be glad if "E. P." or any other of your readers could supply the date when this offshoot first appeared.

B.

[4,128.] GEORGE LOVELL.—Can any of your readers oblige me with information respecting this dramatist, the author of the play called *The Wife's Secret*, which was recited by Mr. Brandram last Tuesday evening? There is no copy of the play either in the Reference Library or at the Portico, nor have I found a notice of its author in any of the biographical dictionaries which I have looked into. All the information I have been able to gather is that he died some thirty years ago, and that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean once appeared in this very play. Judging from this specimen of his powers, Lovell seems to have been a man of high dramatic gifts; and it is to be hoped that Mr. Brandram, by choosing this play for recitation, will do something to revive the memory of a dramatist who has undeservedly passed out of general notice, and is now well-nigh forgotten.

C. E. TYLER.

[4,129.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Can any reader tell me where the enclosed lines are to be found, or who wrote them? I copied them from an old piece of needlework, date 1815, called in Westmorland a "sampler." The young lady of eleven years who worked them on I had the happiness of knowing

intimately in later years ; but the author of the lines was not known, or, if known at the time, had been forgotten :—

Tell me what genius did the art invent
The lively image of a voice to paint?
Who first the secret how to colour sound,
And to give shape to reason wisely found?
With bodies how to clothe ideas taught,
And how to draw the picture of a thought?
Who taught the hand to speak, the eye to hear
A silent language roving far and near,
Whose softest notes outstrips loud thunder sound,
And speaks its accents through the world's vast
round ;
A speech heard by the deaf, spoke by the dumb,
Whose echo reaches long, long time to come,
Which dead men speak, as well as those that live,
Tell me, what genius did the art first give?

F. J. R.

THE LAST OF THE HURDY-GURDY PLAYERS—

The last hurdy-gurdy performer (says *Musical Opinion*) was a fellow named Barbu, who wore a soft felt hat, was inclined to be arrogant and given to chaffing ; he was in the habit of frequently performing in the London streets previous to 1870. In Paris he performed in the Champs Elysees, in the open spaces, and in the courts—not the princely courts, but the forecourts—of select houses. Occasionally he played at the Château Rouge balls, and he also gave concerts, which were well attended. Barbu was a true artist ; he had talent and taste, and knew how to play ; he had not only made the instrument sing, but at times he sang and accompanied himself, and he also improvised short symphonies. Sometimes he was alone, at others he surrounded himself with an orchestra, and then he suppressed the *mouches*. The hurdy-gurdy did the singing, the guitar and violin the accompaniment. He was also furnished with a collection of stock pieces, from which he was often heard to play the trio of the Masques or the sextet from *Lucia*. As a performer, Barbu was so much a master of his instrument that in the diminuendos he used to send the handle flying round at a good speed, let it go by itself, and then catch it again while revolving, so as to produce a swell. He disdained to send the hat round, preferring to rely on the enthusiasm of competent critics. One day, when admiring his talent, we gave him a silver piece, whereupon he said with a dignified air “Thanks ; not for the money though, but for your goodness in listening to me !” He was worthy of his predecessors, Jonglet, Colin, and Denguy. Whither has he gone ? Has he disappeared in a cloud like Romulus ? The man of the hurdy-gurdy has not been seen either in London or in Paris since 1870 ; the story goes that during the Commune he went to the barricades, and was there shot. He was the last of the troubadours, and with him perhaps the hurdy-gurdy has disappeared for ever.

Saturday, December 26, 1885.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

INCH DARNCE.

(Query No. 4,124, December 19).

[4,130.] The “Inch Darnce” inquired about by H. T. C. should be Inchdairnie, and if so printed in the Chetham Society's *Collectanea* is possibly a printer's error. Roger Aytoun, of Inchdairnie, in the county of Fife, a young officer quartered in Manchester, familiarly known as “Spanking Roger,” married old Madam Minshull, of Chorlton Hall, and succeeded to all her property, which occupied a large space. Minshull-street and Aytoun-street are a part of it. Chorlton Hall still exists, and the arms of the Minshulls are carved on one of the chimney pieces.

* * *

H. T. C. has copied the entry in the Manchester Directory for 1788, in which the name is incorrectly given. Inchdairney, or Inchdairnie, is the seat of a branch of the old family of Aytoun, situate near Kinglassie in Fifeshire. Roger Aytoun was a notable figure in Manchester more than a century ago. In 1769 he was a dashing cornet of dragoons, quartered in our town. He was six feet four inches high, and was such a remarkably fast young gentleman that he acquired the sobriquet of “Spanking Roger.” In spite of this he found favour in the sight of the richly-dowered widow of Thomas Mynshull, Esq., of Chorlton Hall. This lady, who had attained the mature age of sixty-five, bestowed her heart and her fortune on the young dragoon, who, if tradition does not sorely belie him, cared little for the former, and as for the latter, forthwith began to squander it. So eminently successful was he that, in 1774, *Harrop's Manchester Mercury* contains the announcement that Chorlton Hall, Garratt Hall, and Hough Hall in Blackley, with their respective demesnes, amounting together to more than 200 statute acres, were for sale, and application was to be made to Roger Aytoun, Esq. All this property belonged to his wife. The description given of Chorlton Hall is highly interesting in our day. It is as follows :—“Chorlton Hall is exceeding (sic) pleasantly situated about a mile from Manchester, commands an extensive prospect, has a beautiful river runs through the land near the house, and the land adjoins the great road

from Manchester to London." The "beautiful river" is the Medlock. The sites of Mynshull-street and Aytoun-street were part of the dower of the old lady, and commemorate the names of both her husbands. She died in 1783, and is buried in the Manchester Cathedral. One of six or seven brasses, inlaid in a large flag behind the altar, is engraved as follows:—

Barbara, wife of Roger Aytoun, Esq., of Inchdairney in Fifeshire, and relict of Thomas Mynshull, Esq., of Chorlton Hall, died 20th February, 1783, aged 79.

Mr. Aytoun married, secondly, Miss Jean Sinclair, of a good Scottish family; and, having attained the rank of major-general, died in 1810. The present representative of this family is Mr. Roger Sinclair Aytoun, who was M.P. for the Kirkcaldy burghs from 1862 to 1874.

DAVID KELLY.

Stretford.

HEY.

(No. 4,118 and others.)

[4,131.] To show the prevalence of this word in our local nomenclature, I may say that in the neighbourhood of Oldham we have a great many Heys. The village where I live is called Hey. Hey Church (or chapel originally) was built in the Great Hey, in contradistinction to the Little Hey and the Further Hey—the latter giving name to Further Hey Mill. The name of the original chapel is spelt "Heigh" on the communion plate. This word evidently means an enclosure or pasture. Not far from here we have Luck Hey, pronounced "Leawck Hey," i.e., the Hey where "luck" or "leawck," a kind of heathy grass, grew; or it might mean long or barren. Near Glodwick we have Nether Hey, and not far across the fields from thence we have Broad Hey, now corrupted in "Broadway" or Broddy Lone (lane). Then we have Sholver Hey, Beal Hey near the Beal water, Moorhey, Mosshey, Hey Farm (No. 2), Haugh Hey, The Heys, Bunker Hey, Ox Hey, Cow Hey, Calf Hey, Layrock Hey—corrupted into Lady Key (pronounced Keigh), and Briny Hey, being a corruption of Bryan Hey, Bryan being the name of the owner or occupier some hundreds of years ago. In addition we have Higgenshaw, the original name being Hai-ghen-shaw, according to the old registers, i.e., Hey in the shaw; the Haigh Farm being now known as Hey Farm or Hey House, the residence of the late Mrs. Knivet, the famous Lancashire singer, from

which Heyside, near Shaw, takes its name. The road leading to this farm through Royton is significantly called Haggate, i.e., Haigh or Hagh gate. How this word has puzzled topographers, some of whom have ascribed its origin to the days of witchcraft! Then we have another cluster of names, as Hey Top, Hey Heads, Hey Barn, Heyrod (pronounced Herod). I am not sure about the origin of these names, however, as Hagh sometimes evidently means High, as High Crompton, originally spelt Hagh Crompton.

SAMUEL ANDREW.

Hey, Lees, Oldham.

GEORGE LOVELL, THE DRAMATIST.

(Query No. 4,123, December 19.)

[4,132.] In reply to Mr. C. E. TYRRE's inquiry concerning Mr. George W. Lovell, author of the *Wife's Secret*, I am unable to give much information about him personally, save that he died prematurely. The play of the *Wife's Secret* was bought from him in manuscript by Mr. Charles Kean, who took it with himself and Mrs. Kean to America in 1847, where it was played by them with great success. On their return to this country the *Wife's Secret* was produced for the first time in England at the Haymarket Theatre, with Mr. and Mrs. Kean in the two principal characters, Sir Walter and Lady Evelyn Amyott. It had a successful run at that theatre, and was subsequently produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, May 6, 1848, during a short engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean. It could not be performed without Mr. Kean's permission, as it was his sole property. After his death, in 1868, Mrs. Kean never again appeared upon the stage, and she kindly returned the manuscript play to Mr. Lovell's widow. I believe I have seen it played since, at the Prince's Theatre, the principal characters by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Calvert. Mr. G. W. Lovell was the author of the *Provost of Bruges*, *Look Before You Leap*, and a few other plays, the names of which I forget.

J. C.

* * *

Mr. George Lovell was the author of several plays, namely, *The Avenger*, produced by Mr. Davidge at the Surrey Theatre in 1835, with Mr. Butler in the principal part; the *Provost of Bruges*, Drury Lane, 1836, with Mr. Macready as the hero; *Love's Sacrifice*, Covent Garden, 1842, Mr. Charles Kemble and Mr. Vandenhoff; *Look Before You Leap*, Haymarket, 1846, Mr. Webster; the *Wife's Secret*, first produced in America

in 1847 by Mr. Charles Kean; and *The Trial of Love*, Princess's Theatre, 1852, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean. Mr. Lovell, who was dependent upon his pen for a livelihood, was also the author of *The Trustee*, a novel; and his wife, formerly Miss Lacy, an actress, was the author of the well-known play, *Ingomar*. Mr. Charles Kean gave £400 for the *Wife's Secret*, and it ran thirty-six nights on its production at the Haymarket in the spring of 1848—an unusually lengthy run for that period, though it would be thought little of in these days. Mrs. Lovell died in April 1878, at the age of seventy-three. Her husband pre-deceased her, but I have not the date.

ION.

* * *

Mr. Lovell died at his residence at Hampstead, May 13, 1878, aged seventy-four years. He was the author (in addition to his plays and novel) of a monthly digest of law and bankruptcy cases.

RICHARD R. ROBERTS.

[Mr. Roberts supplies a list of the plays, with the dates of their productions.—Ed.]

CANNON-STREET.

(Nos. 4,110, and 4,120.)

[4,133.] Since the appearance of my query (No. 4,110) I have been furnished with information bearing directly upon the history of that portion of Cannon-street known as Tipping's Court. For this information, and also for the privilege of sending you copies of two documents relating to these cannon, I am indebted to Alderman William Brown. Some who read these columns may remember that my remarks were exclusively upon the origin of the name "Cannon-street," and the question whether the stumps at each side of Tipping's Court were real cannon or not. They were cannon; this has been proved beyond doubt, and they had also been used on board ship. They originally belonged to the Tippings, a firm of merchants who gave the name to Tipping's Court, and also to Tipping-street, Ardwick. They were used on board a vessel either owned or chartered by the Messrs. Tipping, and were eventually placed at each side of the entrance to their warehouse. They were long guns, consequently a considerable portion was underground, perhaps both trunnions and vent. The descendants of this bygone Manchester firm, wishing to have two such interesting relics of their ancestors, applied for them to the Corporation, with the result as below. They are now

I believe, upon the lawn in front of Davenport Hall. Copy of two papers lent by Alderman W. Brown:—

Paving and Highways Department,

Town Hall, Manchester, 22 Dec., 1885.

"Old Cannons, Tipping-street." [? Court.]

Dear sir,—I beg to forward you copy resolution of our committee respecting above. The letter referred to was from Mr. Edmund T. Tipping, of Davenport Hall, Congleton; and we believe the cannons were taken there.—Yours obediently,

S. MASSEY, Chief Clerk.

"At a meeting of the Paving, &c., Committee of the Council, held the 16th day of December, 1874:—

"Mem.: A letter from Mr. E. T. Tipping, bearing date the 12th instant, requesting that the old cannons formerly standing opposite some warehouses in Cannon-street belonging to him, which had been removed by this committee, might be returned to him, was read.

"Resolved: That the request contained in the letter now read be complied with.

(A true extract.)

JOS. HEARN, Town Clerk."

I find the name Tipping's Court in Pigot's Directory for 1813 CHARLES W. STARKIE.
Dickinson Road, Rusholme.

SHIP-SHAPE.

(Query No. 4,115, December 12.)

[4,134.] This phrase, which is common to all parts of the kingdom, was evidently first used as a nautical term. The etymology of the word ship, itself, seems to indicate something "shaped." Mr. E. Edwards, in his work entitled *Words, Facts, and Phrases*, is of this opinion, and treating upon the word Ship says:—"In its origin a ship was something shaped, and this proves that the word arose when a ship was nothing more than the trunk of a tree scooped out and shaped to enable it to glide smoothly and safely through the water." Perhaps, also, the practice of first launching a vessel, then rigging and fitting out the interior, may have some connection with the origin of the word. In its first state it is naturally not in a fit state to put to sea, but when masts, rigging, sails, and engines are all placed in their proper positions the vessel then becomes "Ship-shape." Sometimes vessels are sent to sea not quite in a finished condition; they are then termed "jury-shaped" or "jury-rigged, i.e., temporarily rigged. These temporary fittings are removed at sea, and the vessel completed and fitted

with proper equipment. The phrase as it is now understood means that everything is in its right place, just as all the requirements of a navigator are methodically arranged in such order as to be most readily found when wanted. The following is an extract from the *Daily News*, August 23, 1870:—
“Having been sent to sea in a hurry they were little better than jury-rigged, and we are now being put into ship-shape.”

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

QUERIES.

[4,135.]—THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH.—James Scott, Duke of Monmouth, natural son of Charles the Second and Lucy Walters, married Anne, daughter and heiress of the Duke of Buccleugh, by whom he had two sons. What were their titles, were they married, and to whom, and had they any children? In the City Art Gallery is a painting of the Duke of Monmouth pleading in vain to his uncle, James the Second, for his life. I wish for the information for the purpose of completing a pedigree. E. D. K.

PATENTS.—The number of applications for patents during the year ending December 31, 1885, amounted to 16,101, being a decrease on the previous year of 1,009. The Board of Trade have appointed a committee, consisting of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Sir Farrer Herschell, and Baron H. de Worms, M.P., to inquire into the working of the Patent Office.

DESTRUCTION OF SALMON BY OTTERS.—On the upper portion of the river Severn the salmon now on the spawning beds have been sensibly diminished by the increase of otters in the district, by which they have been destroyed to a great extent. At the spawning time, when the breeding fish pair together, and are engaged in depositing their ova on the “ridds,” the otters congregate near and make destructive raids upon the fish, capturing them when in the act of spawning. Hunting the fish appears to be as much an amusement for the otter as a source of food, for after taking a rough bite out of the shoulder of the fish and so killing it the otter returns again to the “ridd” and kills a second or third salmon. As many as seven dead salmon so killed have been found at the bottom of one pond in the Severn district. A pair of otters, destroyed by fighting, were picked up a day or two ago.

Saturday, January 2, 1886.

NOTES.

DR. JOHNSON AS A SCHOOLMASTER.

[4,136.] I take the following from the advertisement column of the *Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1736; it is also repeated in the number for July, same year:—

At Edial, near Litchfield in Staffordshire, Young Gentlemen are Boarded, and Taught the Latin and Greek Languages, by SAMUEL JOHNSON.

This was the academy of which Macaulay speaks in the following terms:—

His marriage made it necessary for him to exert himself more strenuously than he had hitherto done. He took a house in the neighbourhood of his native town, and advertised for pupils. But eighteen months passed away, and only three pupils came to his academy. Indeed, his appearance was so strange, and his temper so violent, that his schoolroom must have resembled an ogre's den. Nor was the tawdry painted grandmother (his wife), whom he called his Titty, well qualified to make provision for the comfort of young gentlemen. David Garrick, who was one of the pupils, used, many years later, to throw the best company of London into convulsions of laughter by mimicking the endearments of this extraordinary pair.

D. BENNETT.

Ardwick.

AN OLD DEANSGATE DEED.

[4,137.] The following summary of a deed which Messrs. George Falkner and Sons (the well-known Manchester printers) have kindly sent me for examination, and which is one of the title deeds of that firm to the site of their works in Deansgate, will interest the readers of this column.

The deed is an indenture declaring the uses of a Fine levied at the Lancaster Assizes, and is dated the 24th April, 1711. The parties are “Jonathan Stockton, of Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, chapman, and Mary, his wife, on the one part; and Roger Sedgwick, of the same place, merchant, Samuel Clows, of the same place, chapman, Adam Smith, of Pilkington, in the said county, chapman, and John Rigby, of Manchester aforesaid, carpenter, on the other part.” The property the subject of the deed is thus described:—“All those two Closes fields or Parcells of land lying and being in Manchester aforesaid one of them comonly called the Brickcroft on the East Side of a certain Lane leading from the Danesgate in Manchester aforesaid to a certain Place called the Knott Milne and the other comonly called

the Dole lying on the west side of the same Lane And allsoe ... All that Plott or Parcell of Land or Ground being part of a Close or ffeild in Manchester aforesaid called the Ridgefeild lying Eastward from a ffoot Path or Way which leads across the said ffeild (ffrom a Corner of a Cherry Garden of him the said Jonathan Stockton's) to a Lane on the North Side of the said ffeild and contains all that part thereof from the said ffoot Way to a Lane on the East End the same ffeild and bounded with the said North Lane on the North Side and the said Cherry Garden and a small Croft or Parcell of Ground in possession of Samuel Dickanson Dyer on the South Side the said East Lane on the East part and the said ffootpath or Way on the West Part together with both the said Lands as well on the East End as on the North Side of the said Plott or Parcell of Ground and a Way leading from a Street called the Danesgate in Manchester aforesaid through a gate into the said North Lane And allsoe of all that Messuage or Dwellinghouse scituate lying and being in Manchester aforesaid in the said Street called the Danesgate now in the Tenure Possession or Occupation of the said Jonathan Stockton and Randle Sutton or the one of them their or the one of their Assigne or Assignes and a Garden or Backside thereunto belonging (bounded with a Brick wall on the North Side and a Pail on the South Side the aforesaid Messuage or Dwellinghouse on the West Side and adjoins on the East end or Corner of the said Brickwall to a Cottage now in the Tenure or Occupation of Enoch Syddall) As allsoe a Brewhouse Warehouse litle Shippon and Coalrook within the said Garden or Backside with a Lane or Way on the Back or East Side of the said premisses bounded on the East Side with a Cherry Garden of him the said Jonathan Stockton and on the West with a Brickwall belonging to him the said Jonathan Stockton and Mr. Joseph Barlow And Allsoe of all that Plott or Parcell of Land or Ground lying att the North West Corner of the said ffeild called the Ridgefield containing Ten Yards Southward from a Style on the North Side the said ffeild in a straight Line along the Side of a ffoot Way (leading crosse the said ffeild from the said Style to the Corner of the said Cherry Garden) and Twenty Eight Yards and a halfe from the South End of the said Ten Yards Westward from the said ffoot Way to the Hedge on the West End the said ffeild and Ten Yards by the side of the Said Hedge Northward to the Corner of the said ffeild adjoining

to a Lane on the North Side of the said ffeild and Twenty Eight Yards and a halfe Eastward from the said Corner to the aforesaid Style and is bounded with the said North Lane on the North Side the South West End or Corner of the said ffeild on the South Side part of the said ffootway on the East Side and part of another little Lane or Passage on the West Side of the said ffeild."

A portion (consisting of the two closes, known as "The Brick Croft" and "The Dole," respectively,) was assured to the use of Roger Sedgwick in fee simple; another portion (viz., that part of "Ridgefeild" which lyes on the East Side of the said ffootway and both the Lanes adjoining thereto") was assured to the use of Samuel Clows in fee simple; while a third portion (viz., the dwelling-house with its appurtenances) was assured to the use of Adam Smith in fee simple; and a fourth portion (being the plot of land at the North-west corner of "Ridgefeild" containing $28\frac{1}{2}$ yards in length) was assured to John Rigby in fee simple.

All the parties execute the deed (Clows signing as "Samuell Clowes"), and in the presence of "Abraham Stansfid" and "Geo. Corbisley." The seal used is of a most quaint design, representing two male figures, one on either side of a bench performing some mechanical operation. At the back of the deed are further seal impressions (having no bearing on the formalities of the deed), the design on each of which is heraldic, consisting of a fleur-de-lis occupying the body of the field, the shield surmounted by a large coronet, and supported on one side by the initial I, and on the other by the initial S, probably pointing to the name of Jonathan Stockton, one of the parties.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH.

(Query No. 4,135. December 28.)

[4,138.] James Duke of Monmouth, married Anne Scott, second daughter, and eventually heiress, of Francis, second Earl (not Duke) of Buccleuch. He assumed her surname, and in 1673 he was created Duke, and his wife Duchess, of Buccleuch. They had two sons, James and Henry. James Earl of Dalkeith, who pre-deceased his mother, married Lady Henrietta Hyde, daughter of the Earl of Rochester, and had a son Francis, who succeeded his grandfather as second Duke of Buccleuch. Lord Henry

Scott, the younger son of the Duke of Monmouth, was, in 1706, created Earl of Deloraine, a title which became extinct in 1807. An account of the holders of this peerage will be found in Sir Bernard Burke's *Extinct Peerages*, under the heading of Scott, Earl of Deloraine. When the Duke of Monmouth was executed in 1685 all his honours were forfeited; but those enjoyed by the Duchess in her own right remained unaffected by the Act of Attainder, and are now held by the present peer, who is sixth Duke of Buccleuch and eighth Duke of Queensbury.

E. C. A. A.

* * *

I would recommend E. D. K. to refer to Burke's Peerage and to Burke's Extinct Peerage before completing the pedigree he alludes to.

C. DAGGATT.

QUERIES.

[4,139.] POOLE, OF MANCHESTER AND BOWDON. Can any reader give information concerning a Manchester apothecary named Nathaniel Poole, who left Manchester for Altrincham, and was buried in Bowdon churchyard in 1768? I am a Canadian, and have tried in almost every way to find where he was born and who was his father.

EDWARD POOLE.

Unicorn Hotel, Altrincham.

[4,140.] SHOOTING STARS.—Supposing the prevalent theory that shooting stars are planetary or cometary bodies that fall within the sphere of the earth's attraction, and ultimately, in one shape or another, to its surface, thus obviously increasing its mass, what is the effect, first, in relation to the mean diameter of the moon's orbit round the earth; and, second, in relation to the earth's orbit round the sun?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

HAWK, CROWS, AND LARK.—The other day, while a porter was putting on a fire in one of the rooms at the Upper Station, Bathgate, he was startled by a bird dashing into the room beside him. On looking out he saw a hawk, pursued by two crows, making off. Making search, he found that the bird (a lark) had taken refuge beneath the grate. It had been pursued by the hawk, and to escape its pursuer had taken refuge beside the porter. It was afterwards allowed to escape. The crows had evidently been bent on interrupting the hawk's dinner-chase, but were not swift enough to catch him.—*Scotsman*.

Saturday, January 9, 1886.

NOTES.

"TAKING SHOTS."

[4,141.] A curious custom existed until quite recently (and may still exist) in some of the remote Yorkshire dales called "taking shots." Previous to the removal of the corpse, a near relative of the deceased sat by the open coffin, and received donations from each visitor who went to take his last look at the body before it was committed to the grave. Every one was expected to contribute according to his means and the circumstances of the case, and to sit at this receipt of custom was said to be "taking shots." Is this a relic of the "soul-shot," which, according to Green (*Conquest of England*, page 14), was paid to the priest at the open grave; and can any of your readers throw light upon the custom?

G. H. B.

Moss Side.

THE FOUNDER OF PRIMITIVE METHODISM.

[4,142.] In the obituary column of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xxxviii. (new series), 1852, page 656, I find the following:—

Oct. 18. In Staffordshire, aged eighty-one, Mr. Hugh Bourne, founder of the Primitive Methodists. This body originated only some thirty-three years back, Mr. Bourne and some few others being expelled, or having withdrawn, from the Wesleyans on account of their not being permitted to hold what are known as camp meetings, and for some other similar reasons. They wished to restore Methodism to its primitive simplicity, and were accordingly designated "Primitive," that is, original Methodists. The first little band, thirty-three years ago was a "class" of about twenty, of whom Hugh Bourne was the "leader;" but now they have 600 regular travelling preachers, about 10,000 lay preachers, 5,255 chapels, and 109,000 members, with an increase of between 4,000 and 5,000 members every year.

The religious statistics for 1885 give the following figures:—Primitive Methodists: 1,042 travelling preachers, 649 circuits, 4,282 connexional chapels, 1,797 other preaching places; 192,389 members, including those on trial; 4,104 Sunday-schools, and 405,389 scholars.

D. BENNETT.

Ardwick.

TANNING AND LEATHER TERMS.

[4,143.] In the third volume of the *Manchester Court Leet Records*, now being printed, and embracing the period from 1618 to 1647, there are several entries, mostly in Latin, relating to the

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"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive."

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

City News Notes

and

Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS."]

MANCHESTER:
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.
1886.

improper tanning and drying of leather. In these entries two or three curious words occur, which it is possible may be explained by some one who is conversant with the terms now used by tanners, and if there should be any such person among your readers I shall be only too glad to receive the information. Thus, in 1625, the half of a certain skin "called peeche hide" is mentioned, and in 1631 there is an entry relating to "half a peech of leather" which had been seised and found insufficiently tanned and dried; and it is ordered that "the said half peech of leather" be brought into the Court. In 1624 one piece of skin called "a butt" is referred to, and again in 1626. The entry under the latter year begins as follows (translated): "Memorandum that on the 20th of May, 1626, one little skin called "peache hide," four other skins, one other skin or a piece of skin called "cowneck," and two skins called "butts," and two pairs of articles called "ossles" (*duo paria implement' vocat' ossles*) being seized by the officers called "sealers of leather." The entry, which is a long one, goes on to state that a jury was empanelled, and they returned that the skin called "peche hide" had been sold before it had been properly "sealed" or stamped, but that the said articles called "ossles" were lawfully tanned. "Butts," I take it, may mean the skin from off the "buttock" of the animal, but what a "peeche hide" or a "peeche of leather" is, or what "ossles" are, I cannot imagine, nor can I find the words in any of the ordinary books of reference. Can any of your readers help me?

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergelle, N. Wales.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

IV.

[4,144.] 2. The Founder's immediate relatives (continued).—John and Mary Booth, mentioned by St. George in the minutes of his pedigree, and both living in Salford, had, among other children, the following sons:—(1) John, living 8th April, 1600; (2) Robert, bapt. at Collegiate Church, 7th November, 1583; (3) George, bapt. at the same church, 12th December, 1585, and afterwards of Middleton, and living on 2nd July, 1635, when he takes a contingent interest in the land settled by his uncle, the Founder; and the following daughters:—(1) Isabel, bapt. at the Coll. Ch., 21st February, 1584-5, and living 8th April, 1600; (2) Margaret, living 8th April, 1600

(probably a second daughter, of the same name, bapt. at the Coll. Ch., 27th March, 1592); and (3) Mary, bapt. at the same church, 9th February, 1594, and living 8th April, 1600.

With regard to a John Booth, of Salford, yeoman, a contemporary, and, in my belief, the elder brother of the Founder's father, I have the following particulars. He had two sons, the elder of whom bore the same name as himself, and is, no doubt, the John Booth referred to in the Founder's Will as his late cousin. The younger, named Humphrey, was buried at the Collegiate Church on the 10th April, 1591, and would appear (from a careful study of the church registers) to have been an adult; he was born before the beginning of the baptismal register. He may have been the Founder's senior, and therefore the earlier bearer of the name so distinguished (by several members of the family) in the annals of Manchester and Salford charities. John, the elder brother, is mentioned by Mr. Booker, who does not seem to know of his relationship to the Founder's family, at p. 29 of his *Blackley*, where he states that the Founder's younger son "purchased, in 1634 and 1639, from the co-heirs of John Booth, of Salford, yeoman," certain property in Salford. He was married to Alice Chorlton at the Collegiate Church, "by licence," the 9th December, 1600, and was buried there, the 20th February, 1618—as was his wife, the 26th July, 1639. They left several daughters, the father's said co-heirs, one of whom, Anna (bapt. at the Collegiate Church, 29 March, 1618) is mentioned in the Founder's Will as living in his house in January, 1634-5, and is made a legatee of £10.

The persons mentioned above, and in my previous note, are the only collateral relatives of the Founder to whom it is necessary to make any reference in this series of notes.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ROWLANDSON.

(Query No. 4,122, December 19.)

[4,145.] Rowlandson, as well as Williams, illustrated *Johnny Newcome in the Navy*. The book was published in 1818, by W. Simpkin and R. Marshall, Stationers' Court, Ludgate-street, with sixteen illustrations by Rowlandson. See Grego's *Life of Rowlandson*, volume ii., pp. 363-4; also Halkett and

Laing's *Dictionary of the Anonymous and Pseudonymous Literature of Great Britain*, volume i.

HARRY THORNER.

Sale.

SPANKING ROGER AND THE MYNSHULLS.

(No. 4,130 and others.)

[4,146.] In your Notes and Queries of December 26, No. 4,130, respecting the Mynshull estate and the notorious Spanking Roger, the writer wishes to state for the information of all who are interested in the same, that "Spanking Roger" could not, according to the original wills of Thomas Mynshull and his son, Thomas Samuel, sell or in any way dispose of the same, being left to the heirs and issues of nearest kin. Spanking Roger mortgaged the estate to a person named Marsland, of Stockport, for five years, without the consent of his wife, and, in 1831, the market value of this property was computed at one and a half million sterling. It comprises the whole length of Portland-street (left hand side) to Oxford-street, the whole of the site of Oxford Road Station, right away round All Saints' Church, back again down Rusholme Road, to Ardwick Green and up to the Queen's Hotel. The writer has communicated with a gentleman who is considered the heir to the estate, but barred by the Statute of Limitation, and with your permission will send a few recollections of the celebrated trials for the same in 1831 and 1843, before double juries of twenty-four knights of the shire.

WILLIAM RISHTON.

St. Mary's Road, Dean Lane, Newton Heath.

CANNON-STREET.

(No. 4,110 and others.)

[4,147.] I remember the stumps in Cannon-street. They were placed at the end of almost all the streets and passages leading out of it. Two of them (the largest) were stone pillars, all the rest I believe were iron. These I saw taken up, and they were undoubtedly genuine cannons. Whether they had ever been used as such is another question. It is unlikely that these cannons could have anything to do with the origin of the name, as this is one of the oldest streets in the city, and must have been so called long before there was any necessity for them. The cannons were placed at the corners of the kerbstones, so that luries and other vehicles had to go round them, and were so kept off the footpath and corners of the warehouses. Shortly after the stumps had been removed I witnessed a sad fatal accident,

which could not have occurred had they been left standing. A mother was wheeling her child down the street, and when she got to the corner of Bank Buildings a wheel of the perambulator slipped off the kerbstone exactly at the spot where one of these stumps used to stand, and tossed out the child, whose head went under the wheel of a passing lurry.

A century ago this was the centre of the commercial district. I have a list of about fifty firms who then had warehouses and offices in this street, chiefly spinners, manufacturers, merchants, and calico-printers, and they were hemmed in on all sides by other firms.

The origin of Tippings Court, now called Tipping-street, will be seen by the following entries from Scholes's Directory for 1794:—

Tipping and Walker, yarn and cloth merchants,
Tippings Court.

Joseph Tipping, Esq., Crumpsall.

Thomas Tipping, Ardwick, partner with Peel, Yates,
and Halliwell, Cannon-street.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,148.] THE BLACK CAMEL.—Can any one give the origin and meaning of the phrase, "The black camel kneels at the gate of all?" T. F. U.

[4,149.] A "FALL" OF LAND.—Can any of your readers inform me how much a "fall" of land was? In 1629 one person purchased from another "four falls of land" and a house in Deansgate. I remember once meeting with this word in an old Lancashire deed, where its exact meaning was given, but I cannot find any abstract of this deed, and do not wish to trust to my memory entirely.

J. P. FARWAKER.

A BAD CLARET YEAR.—The French vintage is described as the worst—taking quantity into account—that has been known for thirty years. There was an average during the last ten years of 950,000,000 gallons, but last year the total was only 642,063,375 gallons. The quality is reported to be remarkably good, and prices are said to be going up; but the situation is none the less a very unsatisfactory one, for the imports of wine into France last year were over 180,000 gallons, equal to more than a third of the whole quantity made in France. Worse still, the exports of wine were only 55,575,000 gallons, while ten years ago the exports were 81,767,500 gallons and the imports only six millions; that is to say, the imports have increased in the proportion of thirty to one while the exports have decreased at the rate of three to two.

Saturday, January 16, 1886.

NOTES.

GLADSTONE ANAGRAMS.

[4,150.] In the present state of public feeling, it may be interesting to recall some anagrams that have been made out of the name William Ewart Gladstone. The first is, "Wild Agitator, means well." This was given me as coming from the late Professor T. H. Key, with whom anagrams were a favourite amusement. I do not know the author of the second, "Mad law astir, I get on well." In 1876 I was mentioning these two anagrams to the author of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, when he gave me yet a third, with the making of which he had occupied some part of a sleepless night. It runs thus, "I, wise Mr. G., want to lead all." And to this there is an answering anagram from the name Disraeli, "I lead, sir." *Punch* has given a fourth anagram also from the same words, but this I cannot recall; I only remember that it relates to the felling of trees. Can any of your readers say whether the name yields other anagrams of a more Liberal complexion than the above?

J. S. THORNTON.

London.

JONAS HORROX, OF LIVERPOOL.

[4,151.] Any notices of this person are worth recording. He was one of the very few in England who, November 24, 1639, eagerly scanned the heavens to observe the passage of Venus across the sun. He was brother of the accomplished astronomer, the Rev. Jeremiah Horrox, then a young clergyman at Hoole, Lancashire, who there successfully observed that striking phenomenon, and whose memory in connection with it has been perpetuated by an inscription in Westminster Abbey from the pen of the late Dean Stanley. I have, in the *Palatine Note-book* for December, 1882, given reasons for supposing that these young men were the sons of William Horrocks, of Toxteth Park, near Liverpool. This branch of the family was connected with the well-known Puritan John Cotton, minister of Boston, co. Lincoln. According to Cotton Mather (*Magnalia Christi Americana*, ed. 1702, bk. iii. p. 17), as soon as John Cotton had settled at Boston, about 1613, "his dear friend, holy Mr. Bayne, recommended unto him a pious gentlewoman, one Mrs. Elizabeth Horrocks, the sister of Mr. James Horrocks, a famous

minister in Lancashire, to become his consort in a married estate." This Mr. Horrocks, who is not (as I once supposed) the Rev. Alexander Horrocks, minister of Dean, near Bolton-le-Moors, is also as precisely and distinctly noticed by Oliver Heywood as "that auncient and eminent servant of God," well known to his mother before her marriage in 1615, viz., in the neighbourhood of Bolton. Other members of the Horrocks family had the acquaintance of Mr. Cotton, particularly one who was, perhaps, a pupil, viz., Thomas Horrocks, M.A., of St. John's College, Camb., 1631, afterwards the ejected minister of Malden, Essex. He belonged, says Calamy, to the Horrockses of Horrocks Hall, in Bolton-le-Moors, being the only son of Mr. Christopher Horrocks of that place, who for greater religious liberty went with his family (excepting Thomas) into New England with Mr. Cotton. The latter was so important an immigrant that in his honour the name of the town of Trimontain was changed to that of Boston. He was the ancestor of some remarkable men.

Connected with these clues a trace of Jonas Horrox has turned up in an unexpected quarter. Some friend in America has been good enough to send me a most excellent compilation, entitled *Genealogical Gleanings in England*, by Henry F. Waters, A.B., for which please allow me here to express my best thanks. This work contains an abstract of the will of Francis Hanham, of Boston, co. Lincoln, widow, dated April 4, and proved June 13, 1631. After making bequests to her relatives, she gives "to Jonas Horrox, nephew to Mr. Cotton, 10s., to be presently paid after my decease." This entry seems to show that Elizabeth Horrocks and the Rev. James Horrocks were sister and brother of William Horrocks, of Toxteth, father to the astronomer.

Jonas was residing in Liverpool at the time of the transit of Venus; and his brother, having supplied him with data and instructions, earnestly requested him to view closely what came into his ken. There is the following allusion to the request in Horrox's famous treatise *Venus in Sole Visa*, who directs a by-blow against those who in that favourable month were following the pleasures of the chase in a favourite-hunting country, the Lancashire Fylde:—

De hac conjunctione admonui & fratrem natu minorem, quid tum Liverpooliæ egebat, ill peutor

suis vivibus aliquid præstaret, quod quidem conatus est: sed incassum: die enim 24, nubibus interclusus, observare non potuit, et si diligenter attenderit, sequenti autem sereniori die, sæpe intronmissa solis specie per telescopium, nihil vidit, scilicet quia Venus jam solem peragrasset. Alios quod non admonuerim, veniam mereor; paucos enim novi hujusmodi nugas non derisuros, utpote canibus suis & avibus, ne graviora dicam, post habitas: et quamvis habeat Anglia nostra Syderum etiam venatores, & mihi notos; invitare tamen ad hujus spectaculi jucunditatem non potui, quippe sero nimis à me ipse animadversi.—Ed. folio, Hevelius, p. 118.

The name of Jonas Horrox appears upon the list of those who took the national Protestation in Liverpool in February, 1641-2, along with his relatives James and William. He seems to have had some occupation in Ireland, or a family tie with that country. One of his relatives, James Horrocks, of Toxteth Park, was a watchmaker in 1631; and Jonas himself must have developed the mechanical instinct of the family, for he practised as a land-surveyor. In some proceedings relating to leases of the common lands of Liverpool, or "The Common," then being enclosed, there was an order, November 2, 1653, that James Chorleton and Jonas Horrox should have payment and satisfaction for their pains for surveying the new enclosures upon the town's common, at the discretion of the mayor (Sir J. A. Picton's *Municipal Records*, p. 173). Horrox seems to have died in Ireland (*Opera Posthuma Horroccii*, quarto, 1672, p. x).

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford.

[The above appeared in the (London) *Notes and Queries* of Saturday last, and is here reprinted by permission of the author.—Ed.]

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SPANKING ROGER AND THE MYNSHULLS.

(No. 4,146, January 9.)

[4,152.] Referring to the Note at the above reference, I would assure your correspondent, Mr. WILLIAM RISHTON:—

1. That "Spanking Roger" *could* sell the estate;
2. That by neither of the wills mentioned was the property "left to the heirs and issues of nearest kin" of either of the testators;
3. Roger never mortgaged the estate to Marsland for five years, or any other term;
4. The consent of his wife was not needed either

when the squire mortgaged or when he disposed of the estate, Mrs. Aytoun having previously parted with all her interest in the property.

I need not deal with other inaccuracies in your correspondent's short Note.

C. T. TALLENT-BATMAN.

24, Brown-street.

CANNON-STREET.

(No. 4,147 and others.)

[4,153.] The Tippings named by Mr. JOHN MELLOR were members of an old Manchester family. About the year 1600, near the bottom of Cannon-street resided William Tipping, the approach to whose premises was subsequently called Tippings Gates. He married a daughter of Dr. Willett, a physician in Manchester, whose wife was Helen, the sixth daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford, knight, of Trafford; who for her second husband married Dr. Cogan, head-master of the Manchester Grammar School. From the Willetts came Mrs. Willett, keeper of the post-office, facing Queen-street, St. Anne's, in 1778; whilst sixty years ago lived, at the Polygon, Ardwick, two worthy descendants of the Tippings, maiden ladies, highly esteemed for their charity and kindness. They were generous supporters of the National School, Granby Row. The Tippings are now a flourishing county family in Gloucestershire, where they acquired lands. The head of the family fifteen years ago sold their last bit of land in Manchester, the site of a warehouse near Cannon-street, for thirty-five pounds per square yard.

JAMES BURY.

* * *

In the *Manchester Mercury* for April, 1764, there is a reference to "Hunter's Croft, now called Cannon-street," so that the street can hardly be one of the oldest in Manchester. I presume the cannons had been recently fixed as posts to protect the footpath, and thus Cannon-street acquired its name. My impression many years ago was that they were old ship guns. There were some which were not guns at all, but cast in imitation of cannon, and must be those which gave rise to BILL STUMPS's facetious remarks. At the date above-mentioned Cannon-street had scarcely developed into what it is now, the centre of merchants' and manufacturers' warehouses. A Mr. William Lings had a flour warehouse there at that time.

J. OWEN.

A "FALL" OF LAND.

(Query No. 4,149, January 9.)

[4,154.] In a copy of a deed in my possession, dated July 10, 1660, I find the following words:—"Twoe acres and twentie-five *falls* of land of the large measure used within the county of Chester, comonlie called Cheshire measure, beinge parte or p. cell of a waste Comon called the Woodhead, lyinge in or near Castleshawe," Saddleworth, co. York.

In Scotland, till the Act of 1826, fixing the imperial acre at 4,840 yards, comprised of four roods, and each rood of forty poles or perches, that is 160 poles to the acre, the term "fall" was in common use, and signified a "pole," there being 160 falls to a Scotch acre, = 1.261183 English imperial acre. A fall was equal to 36 square ells, and a lineal ell equal to 37 Scotch inches, = 37.06 English inches, nearly. The origin of the term is obvious, being the "fall" of the pole or perch, six ells in length, used in surveying and measuring land. In Cheshire the term would, doubtlessly, be used in a similar sense—that is for the length of a pole—and there, as mostly elsewhere, there being 160 poles to the acre, and a Cheshire acre consisting of 10,240 yards, the fall would be eight yards in length, and therefore a square fall would contain 64 square yards. Formerly the Staffordshire acre was equal to a Cheshire one. In South Wales the Erw, or true acre, is comprised of 768 llaths, and a llath is equal to 11ft. 6in. lineal measure. The Erw, or S. Wales acre, therefore contains 11,285 yards. In North Wales the Erw contains 4,320 yards; and the Stang, or customary acre, 3,240 yards.

It is somewhat curious that the Egyptian Kassobeh is 11ft. 6in. in length, the same as the Welsh llath; and there being 333 Kassobehs to one feddan, or acre, the Egyptian acre is equal to a little over 4,893 yards, fifty-three yards larger than ours. It is needless, perhaps, to point out that an acre was anciently of no fixed dimensions, meaning simply a field (acer A.S.). In Asia Minor the "feddan" is of variable dimensions, meaning generally as much land as a yoke of oxen can plough between sunrise and sunset.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

"Fall of Land. A quantity of land six ells square superficial measure." (Wharton's *Law Lexicon*.)

C. T. T.-B.

Saturday, January 23, 1886.

NOTES.

"THE DEITY."

[4,155.] In the novel of *Tom Jones* the author, in pursuing a comparison between the World and the Stage, introduces the well-known quotation from Shakspeare:—

Life's a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more.

Then he says: "For which hackneyed quotation I will make the reader amends by a very noble one, which few, I believe, have read; it is taken from a poem called *The Deity*, published about nine years ago, and long since buried in oblivion; a proof that good books, no more than good men, do always survive the bad":—

From Thee all human actions take their springs,
The rise of empires and the fall of kings!
See the vast theatre of Time display'd,
While o'er the scene succeeding heroes tread,
With pomp the shining images succeed:
What leaders triumph and what monarchs bleed!
Perform the parts Thy providence assigned,
Their pride, their passions to Thy ends inclined;
Awhile they glitter in the face of day,
Then at Thy nod the phantoms pass away;
No traces left of all the busy scene,
But that remembrance says, "The things have been."

As this was probably written by Fielding in 1749, it will now be about 146 years since the poem of *The Deity* was published. Probably some of your readers could say whether they have seen the poem, and if it really is buried in oblivion, as Henry Fielding says. One would naturally think it would have been rescued from such a fate on the appearance of *Tom Jones*. I should be glad to hear if anything is known about it at the present time.

W. C.

Ardwick.

THE BROTHERS GRANT.

[4,156.] Some few weeks ago a paper was read before the Manchester Literary Club, by Mr. Robert Langton, respecting the identity of these gentlemen with the Brothers Cheeryble of Charles Dickens. I saw the report in your columns, and am reminded of it by a paragraph in this day's *Athenæum*.

In his paper Mr. Langton repudiated the current belief that the brothers Grant came to Manchester "barfoot an' barelegged," as a true Mancestrian

would have said in my young days. But I can assure him such was the case, without for one moment calling the respectability of their parentage in question. My grandfather knew them well when they first came to the town, and I have heard my mother and aunt frequently repeat the statement that they were then barefooted lads. They had also been known to the father of a friend of mine, and he also said the same. This was when their identity with the Brothers Cheeryble was opened discussed on the publication of *Nicholas Nickleby*. Now, my grandfather was a smallware manufacturer, and if their father had a smallware shop in another town, it is reasonable to suppose that either the father or the sons came to him for the purchase of goods. Within my recollection, lads commonly ran about the streets minus shoes and stockings; and it is notorious that the Scotch did so within a very recent period, if they do not at the present time; not merely the very poor, but a class above the poor; so that it is no impeachment of the Grants' respectability to say they came into Manchester barefoot. To say that they were tier boys is only to say that they belonged to a class of lads who as a rule did go barefoot. Stockings and shoes would have been in a state of perpetual soak in their employment.

I knew the brothers William and Daniel well by sight, and something more, for they came occasionally into my father's shop in Market-street, and Miss Grant was a regular customer. She was tall and rather thin. William was a tall big man, Daniel rather inclined to be short and stout. Miss Grant kept her brothers' house in Mosley-street. It was known that the brothers had sundry piles of copper ranged on a desk in their countinghouse every morning for distribution amongst the poor people who crowded their warehouse door to await their arrival. There was likewise a story current that the Grants rescued from prison and misery a person who had defamed and treated them with the basest ingratitude, but my memory does not retain the particulars. One of the cannon now the subject of disputation was set on the curb of the extremely narrow footway at the corner of their warehouse. I passed it daily for three or four years on my way to business, and I have no doubt it was a veritable cannon. But that does not concern the Grants, or the Brothers Cheeryble.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

V.

[4,157.] 3. The Founder himself.—Humphrey Booth, commonly called "the elder," was—like each of his famous contemporaries, Humphrey Chetham and Nicholas Mosley—a wealthy local merchant and manufacturer and extensive landowner; and was one of that group of prominent Manchester and Salford men who, living during the reign of the first Stuart King of England, revived, if they did not practically originate, in this part of the country, the more important departments of the Manchester trade. He was a merchant clothier and woollen cloth manufacturer, and probably—as his son and trade successor almost certainly was—a fustian manufacturer. The date or place of the Founder's birth or baptism is not positively known; though there can be but little doubt that his birthplace was Salford, the home of his parents. He married, on the 23rd August, 1603, at the Collegiate Church, Elizabeth Whitworth (daughter of Mr. Richard Whitworth of Newton, near Manchester), by whom he had five children—hereafter to be particularly mentioned. Mrs. Booth died in October, 1610, and was on the 10th of that month buried at the Collegiate Church. Her father's will was proved at Chester in the year 1622.

In a money bond dated February 15, 1618, executed by Francis Pigott, merchant tailor, London, and Robert ffage, of the Middle Temple, London, Esquire, the Founder is described as of Salford, gentleman; the witnesses are "George Valentyne" and "Tho. Kyllett," and the amount, secured by the Bond, is payable to the Founder "att the Chappell of the Rolls, scituate and beinge in Chauncery lane, London."

The Founder, on August 2, 1622, had conveyed to him, by John Beswick, senr., and John Beswick, junr., "severall closes of land in Blakeley;" and he was a party to a Fine, levied at Lancaster, on August 20 in the same year, Joseph Costerdine and others being the deforceants, "of landes in Blakeley"—whether the same lands as last mentioned does not appear on the abstract (or rather schedule of title deeds) from which I am quoting.

The following is a copy of a curious commercial security, dated in 1623, in favour of the Founder, which I have in my collection of old MSS.:—

This bill bindeth me Thomas Leighe of Knutsford wollendrap' to paye unto Humfrey Boothe of Salford

Clothier the fful and Just some of ffortie six pounds neeneteene shillings of Currant Englishe money, Due to be paied the 24 of June next, to the w'ch saied payment well & truly to be paied in manner & forme aforesaied, I the saied Thomas Leighe doe bynd me my heires & assignes firmlie by these presents. In witnesse hearoof I have sette my hand and seale the 13 of Maye 1623.
p' mee Tho. Leighe.

Sealed, signed, & d[elivered]d in the presence of
William Chorlton,
James Jollie.

In 1625 and 1626 respectively, the Founder was party to the respective marriage settlements of his two well-known sons—the only ones who attained manhood—but detailed reference to these transactions had better be held over until I deal with the marriages and with the histories of the two sons in question.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

GLADSTONE ANAGRAMS.

(Note No. 4,150, January 16.)

[4,158.] Your correspondent, J. S. THORNTON, gives several excellent anagrams on the name of Mr. Gladstone. Perhaps the following, which was sent to the *St. James's Gazette* by an anonymous correspondent (in 1883, if I recollect), may be of interest, especially after the phase the Irish question has recently assumed:—"The Right Honourable William Ewart Gladstone—I am the Whig who'll be a traitor to England's rule."

THOMAS W. HARRIS.

Chapel-street, Salford.

* * *

I have seen the following anagram about trees on the name William Ewart Gladstone:—"At trees a man will go wild."

JOEL WAINWRIGHT.

Finchwood.

CANNON-STREET.

(Nos. 4,153 and others.)

[4,159.] Though the supposed origin of the name of this street has not yet been definitely confirmed, it may be well to note another fact or two connected with its history before the subject is dismissed.

It was here the place of worship known as Cannon-street Independent Chapel was erected in 1761. It was rebuilt about 1829. For many years past it has been used as a yarn warehouse. On June 23, 1781, Mr. Charles Wheeler printed and published the first number of the *Manchester Chronicle* in Hunter's Lane, a short street at the lower end of Cannon-

street running into Hanging Ditch. The warehouse of Messrs. Samuel and James Broadbent used to be nearly at the top of Cannon-street, on the right-hand side. Towards the close of the last century a weaver accompanied by a lad used to trudge from Middleton to here with a wallet on the shoulders of each, containing the cloth they had woven. After receiving fresh supplies of warp and weft they used to tramp back again to Middleton. The lad with his rough jacket, knee-breeches, strong stockings and shoes, and his open-collared shirt, would look rather a conspicuous object now-a-days. He was the author of *Passages in the Life of a Radical*.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,160.] RAE WILSON AND THOMAS HOOD.—Who was "Rae Wilson, Esq.," whom Tom Hood satirized in his famous "Ode?" What was his position in life, and how did he incur such odium from the genuine-hearted poet?

L. V.

[4,161.] MANCHESTER VOLUNTEERS AND THE SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.—Can any reader give me information respecting His Majesty's Seventy-second Regiment or Manchester Volunteers, stating if any records exist, and where and by whom the men were enlisted for the defence of Gibraltar during the memorable siege in which this regiment took part?

MANCESTRIAN.

[4,162.] THOMAS ROCHDALE, A BURY BOOK-BINDER.—A correspondent writes as follows to the *Pall Mall Gazette*:—"While engaged in cataloguing a library an example of bibliopegistic skill came under my notice, the executor of which certainly deserves to rank with the celebrated names of Roger Payne, Charles Lewis, and Kalthoeber. The work in question was a copy of Thomson's *Seasons*, illustrated by Bartolozzi, bound in red morocco, inlaid on sides with coloured leathers, in geometrical designs, in imitation of the Grolier style, while, singular to say, the lettering, instead of being gilt, was also formed of inlaid leather. The whole was executed in such exquisite style that much surprise was caused that, when examined, instead of one of the great London binders, the ticket of Thomas Rochdale, of Bury, a name hitherto unknown, met the eye. From a letter affixed inside, referring to the binding, the date of the execution of the work is placed at 1813. Col-

lectors are advised to look out for specimens of Rochdale's work, as they will be, judging from the above, well worthy of notice." Assuming this to be Bury in Lancashire, is anything known in that town or the county of an artist who seems somehow to have been worthy of fame, but has become "to dull forgetfulness a prey?"

ION.

BICYCLING OVER THE ALPS AND APENNINES.—

A Bavarian gentleman, Mr. Wolff, together with a pupil of his named Carlo Bresedolo, has travelled to Rome by bicycle from Trento in six days, having at first been greatly hindered by snow and storms in the valley of the Adige. The last part of the journey was very rapid, as the travellers did the distance from Pisa to Rome, 400 miles, in 29½ hours. One of the bicycles weighed only 28lbs., and yet crossed the Alps and Apennines without the least damage.

BREAD V. DRINK.—Mr. Charles Fenwick, M.P., who has been a total abstainer for nineteen years, in a speech at North Shields the other day drew a contrast between the Drink Bill and the Bread Bill. They were, he said, in the midst of a commercial depression; men were out of work and children crying for bread, and still, in the United Kingdom, day by day they were spending on an average over £370,000 on intoxicating drink, whilst they were only spending £192,000 per day on bread. If men were only wise in their generation, if they would take the £370,000 that was spent day by day on intoxicating drink to the shoemakers, the tailors, the grocers, the butchers, and the upholsterers, it would give such an impetus to this country as to find employment for all.

LONGEVITY IN THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—The obituary of the Society of Friends for the past year for Great Britain and Ireland shows some striking instances of longevity. In all, the deaths of 317 persons are recorded—160 males and 157 females. The infantile mortality is very slight—the total number of deaths of children under one year being thirteen, and of those between one and five years eleven. Of persons from five to ten years there were seven deaths, and ten to fifteen years four deaths only in the year. The deaths slowly increase with the decades following, but not until that from fifty to sixty is reached is the number over 20, for the decade named the actual number being 29. But from sixty to seventy years there were not fewer than 51 deaths; from seventy to eighty years the number was 72, there being 31 males, and 41 females. The deaths at the age of from eighty to ninety years were as many as 81, the number of males being 24, and females 37. And of deaths of persons between ninety and one hundred years of age there were eight, of whom three were males and five females. One of the latter eight was 92; two were each 93; another 91; while most of the remainder had turned the ninetieth year.

Saturday, January 30, 1885.

NOTES.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

VI.

[4,163.] 3. The Founder himself (continued)—By a deed (of which I possess an abstract or epitome dated in 1776) of grant or feoffment, dated the 18th February, 1630, the Founder (therein described as "Humphrey Booth the elder, of Salford, in the County of Lancaster, gentleman") granted to Adam Byrom, Thomas Mort, Adam Pilkington, John Lownds, George Crannage the younger, and John Whitworth, as trustees, in fee simple:—

All that Barn, with the Appurtenances, situate, standing, and being in Manchester, in or near unto the Highway or Lane leading between the Town of Manchester aforesaid and a certain Place near thereunto adjoining, commonly called the *Shooter's Broom*, then [1630] in the Holding or Occupation of the said Humphrey Booth, or his Assigns, and now [1776] in the Possession or Occupation of William Houghton, or his Assigns; and all those Two Closes, Clausures, and Parcels of Land, Meadow and Pasture, with their Appurtenances, lying and being in Manchester aforesaid, near unto the said Highway or Lane aforesaid, containing, by Estimation, Six Acres of Land, or thereabouts, theretofore the Inheritance of William Stanley, deceased, then [1630] or then late in the Holding or Occupation of the said Humphrey Booth, his Assigns or Assigns, and now [1776] of the said William Houghton, his Assigns or Undertenants; and also all those Three Closes, Clausures, Crofts, or Parcels of Land, Meadow, or Pasture, then called *Millward Crofts*, or *Mileworth Crofts*, lying and being in Manchester aforesaid, containing, by Estimation, Eight Acres of Land, or thereabouts, theretofore the Inheritance of Ralph Hulme, Gentleman, deceased, then [1630] or then late likewise in the Holding or Occupation of the said Humphrey Booth, his Assigns or Assigns, and now [1776] in the Possession or Occupation of John Rawlinson, his Assigns or Undertenants.

These properties were, according to the deed, to be held by the Trustees "their Heirs and Assigns, (under and subject to the Rent of Ten Shillings, thereby reserved and made payable to the Heirs and Assigns of the said Humphrey Booth, yearly), for ever."

Upon special Trust and Confidence, and to the Intent and Purpose that the clear yearly Rents, Issues and Profits of all and singular the said Lands and Premises (the said yearly Rent of Ten Shillings, and all other reasonable and necessary Charges and Reprizes, being always allowed, excepted and deducted) should, from and after the Death of the Humphrey Booth be for ever, yearly, from Time to Time,

justly, truly, carefully, faithfully and wholly disposed of, distributed, converted and employed towards or for the Succour, Aid or Relief of such poor, aged, needy or impotent People, as, for the Time being, should inhabit or dwell within the Borough or Town of Salford aforesaid, and by the Judgments and good Discretions, from Time to Time, for ever, of the Two Constables of the said Borough or Town of Salford successively, for the Time being, and of such the Churchwarden, yearly, for ever, in the Parish Church of Manchester aforesaid, for the Time being, as from Time to Time should happen to be elected or chosen Churchwarden for the same Borough or Town of Salford, or of any Two of them, the same Constables and Churchwarden of or for the same Borough or Town of Salford for the Time being (whereof such Churchwarden to be One), should be deemed and conceived to have Need or Want thereof, and in such sort and manner as is specified, limited, and expressed [in the deed in question].

This is, of course, the endowment deed of the well-known "Elder Booth's Charity"—further particulars of which need not be here given.

I possess a short contemporary memorandum of a "certeyne deed of ffeoffment," dated the 18th day of October, 1632, and made between the Founder and "Robert Booth, gent., sonne and heire apparent" of the Founder, "upon thone p[ar]te And Humfrey Booth the younger, sonne of" the Founder, "upon thother p[ar]te, of a certeyne Messuage, Burgage and Tenement with th' appurtenances, in Salford . . . now in the seuerall occupacons of the said Humfrey Booth the younger, and of one Ralph Baily, chapman." In connection with this memorandum the following names appear:—"Tho. Morte," "George Boothe," "John Dawson," and "Gerard Simkin."

From another contemporary document in my collection I learn that the Founder was, in November, 1632, the owner of (among other property) certain "Messuages, Burgages, lands, Tenements and hereditaments . . . within the Townes, Towneshippes, uillages, hamletts, fields, premises, or Territories of Salford, Manchester, Pendleton, Pendleburie, Ouldfield, Ouldfield Lane, Crosse Lane, Ordsall, Litle Boulton, Ardwick, Chorlton als Chorlton Roe, Ancoates and Ryton [Royton] in the County of Lancaster." Memoranda taken during professional investigation of local titles will enable me to give, in later notes, particulars of some of these estates.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

[In my last note, of which I was not able to revise a proof, are sundry inaccuracies, two of which (not being typographical) ought to be here corrected. (1) The Manchester trades founded or revived by the worthies I

mentioned, were the *old* Manchester staple trades. (2) The security copied was in favour of the Founder, but was not signed by him.—C. T. T.-B.]

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE BLACK CAMEL.

(Query No. 4,148, January 9.)

[4,164.] In *Belgravia* for June, 1884 (article "Proverbs") the proverb is given in rather a different form to that of the querist. "Death is a black camel which kneels at every door" (that is, kneels to take up the coffin-load).

GEORGE W. LOCKWOOD.

Withington.

THE BROTHERS GRANT.

(Note No. 4,156, January 23.)

[4,165.] Thirty to fifty years ago the Brothers Grant were frequent visitors to Buxton, always making the "Old Hall" their quarters. They were fond of billiards, but William played with the "mace" an instrument then used by old gentlemen and ladies, but now rarely seen in a billiard room, because many ladies handle the cue with more dexterity and grace than most gentlemen. Here they always appeared desirous to promote hilarity, and their charities were lavished with indiscriminate prodigality. They went about trying to do good. They were a little god-send to schoolboys. For they would start foot races to the top of Hall Bank or the summit of St. Anne's Cliff and back for coppers, and great was the emulation these prospective pennies excited. One of the fruit-girls of that day, with a heavy basket, went with light elastic steps up the hill in front of the "Hall." "I would give all I possess," said Daniel, "if I could go up that hill like that girl!" Undoubtedly they enjoyed "the pleasures of the table." Once upon a time a peculiar vintage of port took their fancy. "Our compliments to Mr B. We would like to know how much of this wine he has in his cellar?" The answer soon came. So many dozen. "Tell Mr. B. we shall stay until it is finished." And they kept their word.

Many anecdotes are told of them and their coachman "Bob." It is said that Daniel, moved by a pitiful tale told by a man with one leg, gave him half a sovereign. Afterwards, on the appearance of a "runner"—there were no "Bobbies" in those days—the man dropped his wooden leg, let go his real leg, strapped up in his trousers, and ran for his life.

This was a revelation. The same man subsequently, again with a wooden leg, was seen begging on the Rusholme Road, when "Bob" was ordered to drive close past him. Daniel leaned from the window and gave him a smart whack with his walking stick across the shoulders. "That reduces the account to nine and sixpence!" he exclaimed, as the carriage rolled on. And the story goes that he took it out in similar sixpennyworths whenever he had a chance.

J. C. BATES.

Nuttall Terrace, Buxton.

MANCHESTER VOLUNTEERS AND THE SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

(Query No. 4,161, January 23.)

[4,166.] A correspondent desires information concerning the above. Perhaps the following particulars may be of some use.

In 1777 war was being carried on between England and America, and in their patriotic zeal the inhabitants of Manchester started a subscription in order to equip a regiment to serve for the mother country. The result of this movement was that a sum of £8,075 was raised, and a regiment—the celebrated Seventy-second—was formed (the precursor of many volunteer regiments in Manchester). The original plan was not carried out, for the regiment, instead of sailing for America, proceeded to Gibraltar, where it played a prominent part in the siege, rendering valuable help to the British arms. The Volunteers returned to this town in 1783, where they were received with great enthusiasm, and their colours were deposited with great ceremony in the Collegiate Church. They were subsequently removed to the Chetham Library, where they are still, I believe, to be seen. The total strength of the Manchester regiment numbered 1,082 men. In an ode, composed at the time, the following reference to them is to be found:—

But Britain in this race of fame,
Which of thy daughter towns may claim
The greatest share of glory for the whole?
'Tis Manchester that claims the share,
'Tis Manchester re-urged the war,
'Tis Manchester re-awaked the British soul.

In the *Manchester Historical Recorder* several men connected with this regiment are mentioned. George Beswick, one of the Volunteers, died at Bolton, March 25, 1840, aged seventy-nine; and Mr. Adam Mort, then one of the few surviving heroes, died May 31 in the same year, at Davyhulme, aged eighty-nine. Perhaps the most celebrated man in the corps

was Colonel John Drinkwater-Bethune, who served as a captain in the regiment. He was the son of Dr. Drinkwater, of Salford, and brother to Major Drinkwater, of the Sixty-second, who died April 23, 1797, on his way home from the West Indies. Colonel Drinkwater was educated at the Manchester Grammar School, and at the age of fifteen he entered the Seventy-second Regiment. He was one of the last, if not actually the last, of the survivors of this memorable siege. Throughout the siege he noted down in his diary all particulars connected with the attack, and on his return home he wrote a *History of the Siege of Gibraltar*. He died January 16, 1844.

Reilly, in his *History of Manchester*, mentions the formation of this regiment. E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam, Rusholme.

TANNING AND LEATHER TERMS.

(Note No. 4,143, January 9.)

[4,167.] In reply to Mr. J. P. EARWAKER, we have no such term in our trade as peach hide, but it is most probable that the name was applied to calf skins tanned with peach wood, the colour being a delicate pale red. The word "ossles" may have meant the roundings off hides, which we call offal.

JAMES T. NEWTON

Blackfriars Bridge.

QUERIES.

[4,168.] WORK ON CROMWELL.—Who wrote the History of Cromwell and his Times, which appeared in the *Working Man's Friend* in the years of 1848, 1849, and 1850? Was it Thomas Carlyle?

W. B.

[4,169.] GULIX HOLLAND AND DIMOTHY.—In an inventory made towards the close of the last century I find frequent mention of "Gulix Holland," and of shirts made of "Gulix Holland." Can any of our manufacturing friends tell what was the speciality denoted by the "Gulix?" In the same inventory I found Dimity spelled "Dimothy." The writer was not illiterate, and not likely to spell incorrectly.

ISABELLA BAXES.

[4,170.] CHARLES SHARPE OF DUMFRIES AND ROBERT BURNS.—Who was Charles Sharpe, to whom Burns introduced himself in [a characteristic letter as follows?—"It is true, sir, you are a gentleman of rank and fortune, and I am a poor devil. You are a feather in the cap of society, and I am a very hobnail in his shoe. Yet I have the honour to belong to the same family with you. I cannot, indeed, be properly

said to belong to any house, or even any province or kingdom; as my mother, who for many years was spouse to a marching regiment, gave me into this bad world aboard the packet-boat somewhere between Donaghadee and Portpatrick. By our common family I mean the family of the Muses." The letter to Sharpe was sold along with a number of interesting autograph manuscripts of Burns, at Christie, Manson and Wood's rooms, London, on the seventh of December, 1880.

W. DINSMORE.

[4,171.] **BLAKESTAKE.**—Will some of your antiquarian or other old inhabitant readers turn to Baines's Map of the County Palatine, engraved in 1824, and published 1824-5 by W. Wales and Co., of Liverpool, for Baines's *Lancashire*, and tell us, if they possibly can, whether the insertion of this word is a blunder on some one's part in topography? The map before me has T. Wilson, surveyor, at the left-hand corner, and I don't detect another doubtful spot in any other part of the excellent sheet. I may just say that Blakestake is placed about midway between Chorlton Row, Levenshulme, Rusholme, and Kirkmanshulme. The illustrations of the principal portion of each Lancashire town given by the several surveyors at the corner of each map are replete with quiet humour. Stockport is delineated with its church, at the end of a main street, which is peopled by three men, all engaged either in riding or driving.

H. H.

Chorlton-on-Medlock.

WOLVES FRIGHTED BY THE TELEGRAPH.—In Norway it is believed that wolves are frightened away by telegraph lines. While a vote was pending on a grant to a new line, a member of the Storting remarked that, while his constituents had no direct interest in it, they would support the grant, because the wires would drive away the wolves. It is said that, however hungry a wolf may be, he will never go into a spot that is enclosed by ropes stretched on posts. It is stated, as a remarkable fact, since the first telegraphic line was established, twenty years ago, wolves have never appeared in its neighbourhood.

PRESS CORRECTORS: AMERICA v. ENGLAND.—Proof-reading is one of the things they do better in America. Every large printing establishment there has for proof-reader a highly-educated person with a knowledge of languages and an equal tenacity of opinion. He or she, too, generally receives a large salary—one of the largest in the establishment. Here in England it is common to find a wealthy and important printing firm employing as chief proof-reader somebody who would be more properly engaged in writing addresses or affixing stamps.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Saturday, February 6, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CHARLES SHARPE AND ROBERT BURNS.

(Query No. 4,170, January 30.)

[4,172.] Charles Sharpe was the son of William Kirkpatrick, of Ellisland, and grandson of Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, of Closeburn. Succeeding to the estate of Hoddam, in Dumfriesshire, he assumed the name of Sharpe. He was the father of the celebrated Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, and was himself a man of considerable talent. He was a good violinist and composer of music. Burns found in him a kind and a considerate friend. Many were the visits to Hoddam, when, no doubt, the violin was produced, and the pathetic airs of Scotland played over with gusto to the delight of the Bard.

THOMAS GAVIN.

Boston-street, Hulme.

* * *

The Charles Sharpe addressed by Burns in the letter quoted, under a fictitious signature (Johnny Faa), and dated Ellisland, April 22, 1791, was Charles Sharpe, Esq., of Hoddam, in Dumfriesshire, father of Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, Esq., distinguished for his antiquarian lore. Mr. Sharpe wrote verses as well as composed music.

WILLIAM DYKES.

MANCHESTER VOLUNTEERS AND THE SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

(Nos. 4,161, and 4,166.)

[4,173.] Referring to this query, and to the answer by Mr. E. PARTINGTON, it may be interesting to note that "Spanking Roger" was one of the officers of the regiment mentioned, and one of those ordered to Gibraltar. In an Indenture of Release, dated 29th September, 1779, wherein the notorious Squire is described as "Roger Aytoun, late of Chorlton, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, but now of Inchdornie, in the county of Fife. Esquire, a Captain in the 72nd Regiment of Foot, or Royal Manchester Volunteers," it is recited that "the said Roger Aytoun is desirous to make immediate and ample provision for the payment of his said debts, by the sale of the said premises [the Chorlton estate] . . . but being called upon to go immediately on His Majesty's service to Gibraltar, where his said regiment is now in garrison, he is thereby prevented from selling or contracting for the sale of the said premises . . . in his own proper person"; and

consequently, his Chorlton estate is expressed to be conveyed to certain trustees (Joshua Marriott, Thomas Chadwick, and Thomas Walker the younger, all local gentlemen), for the purpose of satisfying or mollifying creditors of the extravagant squire.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

BLAKESTAKE.

(Query No. 4,171, January 30.)

[4,174.] Blakestake is not a printer's error on the map named by H. H. I recollect the place very well. Some fifty-five or sixty years since it was a large farm-house that stood to the right of Plymouth Grove when all about there was fields. If H. H. will walk from Nelson-street up what was Clarence-street, when he gets to where it joins High-street the farm-house stood a little to the left. It was inhabited as a farm some years ago by a milk-dealer of the name of Toon. I have not been in that neighbourhood for some time, but when last I saw it, part I think was used as a cab or omnibus office, the other looked only like a small cottage. I once saw a pack of harriers meet there.

GEORGE MOUNTAIN.

* * *

If "H. H." will refer to the map accompanying Slater's Manchester Directory for the present year he will find "Blackstake Cottage" a little to the north of the junction of Upper Brook-street and High-street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock; and "Blackstake Farm" a little to the south of it. In the former case the map is in error, the "cottage" having been pulled down several years ago. The buildings of the latter, however, still remain. The Blackstake estate formerly extended from Wilmslow Road, occupying both sides of High-street and Clarence-street (now Upper Brook-street), these streets indeed being most probably formed by its owners in order to develop their property for building purposes. The name "Blackstake," in a slightly changed form, is perpetuated by the Blackstock Hotel, Upper Brook-street, and the adjacent Blackstock-street.

W. H.

QUERIES.

[4,175.] "CARE WILL KILL A CAT."—What is the origin of this proverbial saying? J. A.

[4,176.] MANCHESTER IRON FOUNDERS.—In what part of Manchester, and in what year, was estab-

lished the first ironfounders or ironfoundry in which cast-iron was run in moulds made in sand?

MONANDER.

[4,177.] HUXLEY AND THE CHESS-PLAYERS.—I understand that Professor Huxley describes in one of his essays a well-known German picture, which represents a young man playing at chess with the tempter of his soul. Can any reader direct me to the passage?

W. T. B.

[4,178.] GEORGE ELIOT.—How should Marian Lewes Cross's pen-name of Eliot be pronounced? According to the unwritten law of English spelling and pronunciation, which makes the doubling of letters the intimation that the sound of the preceding vowel should be short, the pronunciation of Eliot ought to be Ee-liot. But I am told that she herself insisted that Ell-yut was the right pronunciation. Can any one say? The matter is not, perhaps, material, but one may as well be right even in trifles.

ANON.

MR. RUSKIN'S HAND-MADE WOOLLEN GOODS.—Mr. Ruskin's political economy is undergoing a severe strain. In pursuance of it he established at Laxey, in the Isle of Man, a water-mill for the production of hand-made woollen goods. Beauty combined with honesty were to distinguish this mill. It was called St. George's Mill. No nasty modern machinery, fit for making shoddy, was to destroy the nerves of the workmen at Laxey. Its woollen cloth, flannel, and stocking yarn, though not possessing "that smoothness of finish characterizing modern manufacture," were to be unequalled "for durability and freedom from shrinking." Unfortunately there is one thing which was left free to shrink. The profits have shrunk. "Honest goods" seem not to go down in the market. It is announced that "the sales of the productions of the water-mill at Laxey have almost ceased, except to the inhabitants and farmers of the island, who bring their own wool to be exchanged for cloth or stocking yarn." The stock is accumulating, the profits are disappearing. In other words, the Laxey water-mill does not pay. Though the goods are everlasting in wear, a benighted population demands a smoothness of finish in what it buys, which can only be produced by means and methods which are detestable to every true Ruskinite. To maintain the watermill, an appeal has been issued praying the managers of charities to buy Mr. Ruskin's goods. Of course, he will feel that the competitive system is wrong. But competition tells even upon St. George's Mill. People will buy what they like best, not what is produced in the best manner.—*London Correspondent of Liverpool Mercury*. [Probably the failure is due quite as much to Mr. Ruskin's aversion to advertising—that is, to the modern method of making things known. Extremely few people even knew of the enterprise. The above paragraph was the first intimation we had of its existence.—ED.]

Saturday, February 13, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MANCHESTER VOLUNTEERS AND THE SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

(Nos. 4,161, 4,166, and 4,172.)

[4,179.] By the kindness of its present possessor, Mr. Boyes, I have examined a copy of Reilly's *History of Manchester*, once the property of that indefatigable antiquary and bookseller, John Gray Bell, of Manchester. He extended the work from its original form (one volume) into four volumes by the insertion of several thousand views, portraits, and MS. documents bearing upon the history of this city. The history became the property of the late Alderman Booth, and at the sale of his library it passed into the hands of its present possessor. At the end of the third volume there are several documents relating to the siege of Gibraltar. The most important ones I give here. From one we learn that the regiment was finally disbanded on September 9, 1783, and that it was raised by the exertions of Captain Aytoun, of Chorlton Hall. The first one of any note is a paper giving the route of the regiment in its march from Southampton to Manchester. It is as follows:—

Monday	August 11.....	Salisbury
Tuesday	" 12.....	Devizes
Wednesday	" 13.....	Chippenham
Thursday	" 14.....	Halt
Friday.....	" 15.....	Malmesbury
Saturday	" 16.....	Stroud and Hampstead
Sunday	" 17.....	Halt
Monday	" 18.....	Gloucester
Tuesday	" 19....	Tewkesbury
Wednesday	" 20.....	Worcester
Thursday	" 21.....	Halt
Friday.....	" 22.....	Kidderminster and Bewdley
Saturday	" 23.....	Wolverhampton
Sunday	" 24.....	Halt
Monday	" 25.....	Stafford
Tuesday	" 26.....	Newcastle
Wednesday	" 27.....	Macclesfield
Thursday	" 28.....	Halt
Friday.....	" 29.....	Stockport
Saturday	" 30.....	Manchester

At the bottom of this paper are the initials J. D., which evidently stand for James Drinkwater, captain of the Seventy-second, and historian of the siege.

The second document I copied was an account, by an eye-witness probably, of the return of the regiment to Manchester.

On Saturday last arrived here from Gibraltar the 72nd

Regiment, or Royal Manchester Volunteers, amidst the repeated acclamations of near thirty thousand persons, who flocked from all quarters of the county to behold the men whose spirit, perseverance, and bravery had rivalled the greatest heroes of antiquity. The gentlemen of Stockport, after particularly treating them with a public breakfast, showing them every token of respect during their short stay, (they) headed them on horseback from thence, and were met about half way by the gentlemen of the town on horseback; as soon as they appeared on Ardwick Green (where the Dragoons on horseback, the gentlemen of the Association, and other gentlemen on foot waited for them), the joy of the people burst out into the loudest acclamation, and all the way to the town and to S. Ann's Square, being thronged with spectators, they eagerly vied with each other which should most loudly express the joy of their gladdened hearts. The Association gentlemen fired three excellent volleys, for which they received three cheers from the populace, and they returned the compliment with three more. In the afternoon the officers were entertained with an elegant dinner at the Exchange Coffee House, attended by the gentlemen of the town and the neighbourhood, Sir Thomas Egerton; the Lord of the Manor, Sir Ashton Lever; Boroughreeve and Constables, and about one hundred and twenty more. To particularize every circumstance of that joyful day would be impossible; neither can words give you an adequate idea of the maddened joy of the people for the return of their friends, relations, and brave defenders of their country's rights, who boldly repelled the united attacks of France and Spain, by sea and land, stood firm as the rock they possessed, and dashed the proud insulting foe into the waves.

From the following paper in the handwriting of Captain James Drinkwater we learn that the inhabitants of Manchester did not remain satisfied with showing their appreciation in the manner described above, but they found out other ways of more effectually appreciating the efforts of the brave Seventy-second. The paper was evidently sent to the office of *Harrop's Mercury* for insertion in that paper. The advertisement ran as follows:—

A subscription having been entered into for the relief of the wounded and maimed and the widows and orphans of the soldiers of the Seventy-second Regiment of Foot, or Royal Manchester Volunteers, the persons included in the description are requested to send their claims to Mr. Harrop, the printer of the paper, with an account of their residence, etc., before the 21st of October, in order that the particular circumstances of such may be considered previous to the distribution which is intended to be made early in November.

It is gratifying to know that the results were good. The last paper of any note in the collection is interesting if not important. It is headed: "Deserted from His Majesty's Royal Lancashire Regiment of Foot, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Commandant Sir Thomas Egerton, Bart.," and it gives the description of four men who evidently had repented their offer

to serve. From it we learn that the regiment was at Danbury, in Essex, on the 11th July, 1781 (the date of the proclamation). The Lieutenant and Adjutant who signed the document was William Hanby. These few particulars may be of use to your correspondent MANCHESTERIAN, who desired to know something concerning the Manchester regiment.

E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam, Rusholme.

SPANKING ROGER AND THE MYNSHULL ESTATE.

(Nos. 4,146 and 4,152.)

[4,180.] Mr. TALLENT-BATEMAN is a dangerous foe to pitch against on questions of old deeds and wills. Nevertheless, what I wrote in my note of January 9 (and which was given from memory) I find from evidence now in my possession must stand, excepting the last six words. I have taken considerable pains to secure a book which contains a copy of the whole affairs from 1831 to 1844.

The maiden name of Madame Mynshull's mother was Dorothy Rishton, who, at the age of fourteen years, married James Laurence at Blackburn, October 25, 1689. He died without issue. She married, secondly, Oliver Nabb, February 20, 1698, at Blackburn, and had issue—(1) Nicholas, (2) Rebecca, (3) Barbara; Ruth, and other children who died in their infancy. Barbara Nabb, in her youth, went as a servant to Thomas Mynshull, and, on account of her character and beauty, he married her, thus becoming the lawful wife of Thomas Mynshull of Chorlton Hall, Manchester. They had issue two children, Thomas Samuel and Elizabeth. The latter married James Rivington, a book-stationer of London.

By indentures of lease and re-lease made on the 14th and 15th days of March, 1742, between Thomas Mynshull and Richard Broom of Manchester, on the ninth day of December, 1744, the said Thomas Mynshull, by his wife Barbara, after directing debts and funeral expenses to be paid out of his estate, real and personal, did give to his only daughter Elizabeth the sum of £1,500, and the further sum of £500 to be paid unto his daughter immediately after the decease of his wife. The said Thomas Mynshull did charge his real and personal estate with the payment thereof; gave and bequeathed to his only son Thomas Samuel Mynshull and his heirs all and every his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, and all and every his real and personal estate of which nature or kind soever, appointing his wife Barbara and his son Thomas Samuel executors to his will.

Thomas Samuel Mynshull by his will dated Dec. 20, 1754, gave and devised Chorlton Hall, with the gardens, orchards, closes, fields, lands, and grounds, to his mother, Barbara Mynshull, her heirs and assigns for ever, with £50 to his grandmother, Dorothy Nabb. I find from a memorandum that this property was conveyed by way of mortgage in 1792 to William Cowper, Peter Marsland, and George Duckworth, for upwards of £43,000. They afterwards made a partition of the property, which was completed on the third and fourth of July, 1808, by which each of them became entitled to one-third share. Mr. Marsland afterwards conveyed his portion to a gentleman named Wilmot. Wilmot conveyed 1,426 yards to Anthony Nesbit, which led to the following action:—

A trial for this property March 25, 1842, before Mr. Baron Rolfe, at Liverpool, appeared to excite much attention in court, especially amongst the gentlemen of the long robe, application being made to his Lordship to order the sheriff to return a writ which had been issued for the purpose of summoning four knights of the shire to appear in Court on the first day of Assizes, to try a writ of right to the possession of some property in Manchester. The writ was produced, and the following called over:—Sir Thomas Potter, Sir Thomas Branker, Sir Joshua Walmsley, Sir George Drinkwater, and twelve others. Many of those present never witnessed such a proceeding, and it is certainly the last of the kind which can take place in this country. There has been no instance of any trial of a writ of right in the Court for the County Palatine since 1817. And by the real property statutes the claim of right which the writ is intended to enforce is extinguished, and consequently the writ abolished. An exception was, however, made of all then existing claims, and a certain time allowed for their prosecution. We understand the present writ was issued so long ago as the month of July, 1833, and that the proceedings have gone on ever since, some matters connected with them having been argued at great length before the Court of Queen's Bench, and also before the fifteen judges in the Exchequer Chamber. The property affected is situate in Chorlton, near Manchester, and comprises the most valuable part of that flourishing township, the demandant claiming to be heir to the premises known as Chorlton Hall and the lands connected therewith. Those lands have been sold, and some of the most fashionable streets of the manufacturing metropolis have been erected upon them. He claims as the heir at law of Mrs. Barbara Mynshull, who in her old age married Roger Aytoun, known in his time by the cognomen of Spanking Roger, and the validity of the dispositions of the property made by him will really constitute the question to be tried between the parties. The conclusion arrived at was the Jury retired without giving any verdict.

Such is one account of this trial.

WILLIAM RISHTON.

PRONUNCIATION OF "GEORGE ELIOT."

(Query No. 4,178, February 6.)

[4,181.] I have pleasure in answering ANON's query on this subject. George Eliot herself pronounced the name "Ell-yut," and not "Eel-yut," and my authority for this positive assertion is George Henry Lewes's son, Mr. Charles L. Lewes, who lived with G.H.L. and Marian Evans, along with another brother until his marriage. In conversation with a friend anent Mr. Cross's *Life* immediately after its publication, this question of pronunciation arose, and to settle the matter authoritatively and finally I inquired of Mr. C. L. Lewes, who replied as above, and further added that he "never in the whole course of his life heard the name pronounced Eel-yut." As ANON remarks, the matter is not perhaps material, but one may as well be correct in using the name of so illustrious a writer as George Eliot.

BENJAMIN SAGAR.

Burnley.

* * *

The pseudonym Eliot, adopted by the late Mrs. Cross, should undoubtedly be pronounced as if written Ell-yut; at all events thus she pronounced it herself. I have a friend who was intimately acquainted with this gifted lady during a great part of her literary career, and he always speaks of her as George Ell-yut.

LONDINUM.

London.

BLAKESTAKE.

(Nos. 4,171, and 4,174.)

[4,182.] The following was written by my friend the late Mr. John Higson, to which I have contributed some addition;—Blakestake, or Blackstock, is a homestead located about a field's distance on the south from the line of Upper Brook-street. It gives name to a hamlet two miles S.S.E. of Manchester. Concerning its name, Whitaker says, Stoc, A.S., the trunk of a tree, implies that the site was once a wood. But Stoc, A.S., signifies a place protected by a stockade, or the site of a Saxon pah, as the New Zealanders term them. The earliest mention of the place we have found is in 1591, in the will of Robert Smith of Mosse-side, who bequeaths a sum of money to John Smythe of Blakestake. In 1597 Anne, daughter of John Hunte of Blackstake, was buried at the Collegiate Church. John Hunte married in 1593 to Anne Hartley. She died in 1629, he in 1633. In 1606 there was a George Pomfrey of Blakestake. 1611, Peter Summer of Blakestake. In 1665 Blake-

stake in Chorleton Rowe was owned or occupied by Richard Townley. From 1664 to 1708 there was a George Worsley of Blakestake. He was buried at the Collegiate Church, February 22, 1708. Richard Worsley, of Blakestake, owner, was returned in 1725 as liable to serve for town's officer for Chorlton Rowe. In 1743 Alexander Watson was returned as liable to serve for town's officer for Blake Stake, and seventeen years later his time came round again. In 1866 I visited the place, then occupied by John Toon, cow-jobber, but saw nothing but what is stated by Mr. MOUNTAIN.

J. OWEN.

HUXLEY AND RETZSCH'S CHESS-PLAYERS.

(Query No. 4,177, February 6.)

[4,183.] Professor Huxley, in an address on "A Liberal Education, and where to find it," which is published in his *Essays Selected from Lay Sermons, Addresses, and Reviews*, uses as an illustration Retzsch's picture of the devil playing at chess with man for his soul. The following is the passage in which it occurs:—

Suppose it were perfectly certain that the life and fortune of every one of us would, one day or other, depend upon his winning or losing a game at chess. Don't you think that we should all consider it to be a primary duty to learn at least the names and the moves of the pieces, to have a notion of a gambit, and a keen eye for all the means of giving and getting out of check? Do you not think that we should look with disapprobation amounting to scorn upon the father who allowed his son, or the State which allowed its members to grow up without knowing a pawn from a knight.

. . . The chess-board is the world, the pieces are the phenomena of the universe, the rules of the game are what we call the laws of Nature. The player on the other side is hidden from us. We know that his play is always fair, just, and patient. But also we know, to our cost, that he never overlooks a mistake and makes the smallest allowance for ignorance. To the man who plays well, the highest stakes are paid, with that sort of overflowing generosity with which the strong shows delight in strength. And one who plays ill is checkmated—without haste, but without remorse.

My metaphor will remind some of you of the famous picture in which Retzsch has depicted Satan playing at chess with man for his soul. Substitute for the mocking fiend in that picture a calm, strong angel, who is playing for love, as we say, and would rather lose than win, and I should accept it as an image of human life.

THOMAS T. HAYES.

Leigh.

* * *

The eminent German designer Retzsch was the author of the picture entitled "Satan Playing at

Chess with the Man for his Soul." A caricature of it was done by the famous H. B. (John Doyle), in which the late King of the French, Louis Philippe, appeared as Mephistopheles; his antagonist being Queen Victoria. The subject meant to be illustrated, if I remember rightly, was "the Spanish marriage," as it was termed, which created a great sensation at the time in this country.

London.

LONDINUM.

QUERIES.

[4,184.] TRICYCLING FROM MANCHESTER TO JOHN O'GROATS.—Will any cycling correspondent be so good as to give some account of the above route, specifying the principal towns and places of historical interest to be passed through, the hotels by the way, and the distances?

VERDUS.

[4,185.] ACKER'S GATE.—From the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1745 I extract the following:—

Dec. 8. The bellman had been about the town this day, to order all persons to provide pickaxes to spoil the roads; and again, to arm themselves with such weapons as they could get; and there were, it is believed, of the country and town's folks about 10,000 soon collected, who seemed very hearty to have a brush, but the bellman went about the town to order them to disperse. At night four rebels came hither; one of them, supposed to be Tho. Siddal, the barber, narrowly escaped being seized at the upper end of Market-street Lane. He was forced to gallop down the street and through the Acker's Gate, and in the square he quitted his mare.

Where was Acker's Gate, and is the precise locality known?

CHARLES W. STARKIE.

Athenæum Library.

[4,186.] CORTICIUS AND SHIP-MONEY IN LANCA-SHIRE.—In the play of *Mercurius Britannicus*, 1641, one of the judges is thus censured by the name of Corticius:—"Thou beganst to flutter with the lap-wing before thou wert pinfeathered, and to runne with thy shell on thy head. In thy circuite, especially in the County of Lanc. (when Master Farrington was high sheriffe, a man of an honest report) thou didst exercise thy tyrannical faculty; thy dominerig carriages made thee to be hated and abhorred of all." Proceeding with the charge he says: "Oh, with what boldnesse, yea with what insolence, thou didst show thyself an Abettor of that hissed-downe sentence of ship-money; as if thou alone had got the monopolies of all wit." The author's purpose in this play is to censure the judges for the part they took in the question of ship-money; he charges them with being

the cause of the national calamities. The two who decided against the legality of the imposition are held up to admiration for all time—Croke as *Currus Acilius*; Hatton as *Hortensius*. Who was Corticius?

W. WIPER.

MANCHESTER IN 1600.

THE COURT LEET RECORDS OF THE MANOR OF MANCHESTER. Volume II. From the year 1586 to 1618. Manchester: Printed for the Corporation by Henry Blacklock and Co. 1885.

The first volume of the Manchester Court Leet Records covered a period of thirty-four years, namely, from 1542 in the reign of Edward the Sixth, to 1586 in the reign of Elizabeth. The second volume, which the Corporation have just published, carries on the story for thirty-two years, and into the reign of James the First. It is the era of Shakspeare, who would be twenty-two years of age when the clerk of the court made his first entry in this volume, and had been in his grave two years when the last of its records was written. The defeat of the Spanish Armada, the conquest of Ireland by fire and sword, Gunpowder Plot, the deaths by execution of Mary Queen of Scots, Essex, and Raleigh, and the outbreak of the Thirty Years' War, all occurred within the period over which the book extends. But, as we had occasion to remark when reviewing the first volume, the great affairs of the nation are in nowise reflected in the chronicles of the then village of Manchester, which appears to have pursued the monotonous tenor of its way unaffected by the stirring events in the world outside its limited boundaries. And beyond the "comprehending" of a few "vagrom men," we are not even reminded of the social conditions which gave birth to Dogberry, Verges, and the Justice Shallows of the time. There is a value in negative evidence of this kind. It shows the isolation and comparative insignificance of the town—neither influencing nor being influenced by the current of national affairs.

The changes in the personnel of the court and the town government, however, were not inconsiderable. John Lacy was the lord of the manor in the October of 1586 when the volume opens; Rowland Mosley held the office in April, 1618, when it closes. The

manor was purchased by John Lacy, citizen and cloth-worker of London, from Lord la Warre in 1579 for £3,000 ; and he sold it in 1596 to Nicholas Mosley, citizen, cloth worker, and alderman of London, for £3,500. Nicholas was the son of Edward Mosley, of Hough End, Withington, where he was born in 1527 ; he died at the age of eighty-five, in 1612, and was buried at Didsbury. He was succeeded as lord of the manor by his son Rowland, who appointed his cousin Oswald Mosley, of Ancoats Hall, his steward. The death is recorded in this volume of the former steward, Henry, the fourth Earl of Derby, and also of his son, Ferdinando, the fifth earl, the former dying in 1593, the latter in 1594, "not without suspicion of poisoning," and was succeeded by his brother William, the sixth earl. But the Earls of Derby had no longer an official connection with the Court Leet as stewards during the years under review, and, except as land-owners who had to do suit and service to the lord of the manor, they ceased to have any direct or close interest in the town. The name of Humphrey Booth, the founder of Trinity Church, Salford, appears for the first time in the record of the court held in October, 1606. He had bought three closes of land from Mr. Ralph Hulme, and was ordered to come up to do suit and service at the ensuing court. The Plague raged in Manchester in 1605, and at Michaelmas in that year no court was held in consequence. No fewer than one thousand persons were buried in the graveyard of the Collegiate Church during the twelve-month—a terrible mortality amongst the extremely small population of that day.

Under Elizabeth and James, government, local as well as imperial, dealt with many matters which read strange to us. Various sumptuary laws were put in force, and the liberty of individuals was interfered with in a fashion that now seems absurd. In Manchester the regulations were put in force by duly appointed and apparently unpaid officials, who were chosen from amongst the more respectable and responsible inhabitants at the beginning of October every year. In its review of the first volume of the *Records*, the *Athenæum* remarked that "in no other manor whose records we have seen were there so many officers." But at the courts held between 1586 and 1617

the number was gradually increased from seventy-one to one hundred, the new wants of the growing town necessitating fresh additions as occasion arose. Thus it was found that dogs wanted muzzling, that football playing in the streets and the game of tip-cat or giddy-gaddy had become nuisances, and that certain trade transactions then known as "fore-stalling and regrating," required putting down. So officers were appointed for the purpose. One of the funniest regulations had reference to the waits. Free trade in music was not allowed. The waits were protected, and the following curious entry (one amongst many similar) will show how the thing was done. In this quotation we modernize the spelling :—

October, 1588. The jury doth give their consents that James Burton shall have the Waitship wholly to himself. keeping such number for the service of the town as he hath at this instant. And forasmuch as they, being four in number, cannot be maintained sufficiently without reasonable allowance of every inhabitant in Manchester ; and whereas at weddings strange pipers or other minstrels come and sometime play before weddings to the Church, sometime at the wedding dinner, by reason whereof they draw to themselves some gains which ought to redound to the Waits of this town—therefore, in consideration it is a credit to the town to see them well maintained, the jury doth order that no piper or minstrel shall be allowed to play at any wedding dinner or before any wedding within the town to the prejudice of the Waits, earnestly desiring Mr. Steward, as also the inhabitants within this town, to agree unto this our order, and rather augment their wages than otherwise, so long as they shall use and behave themselves dutifully and painfully as appertaineth.

Later entries seem to show that there was a disposition on the part of the inhabitants to encourage other musicians, and not only were fines and penalties imposed for the practice, but it was ordered that the "foreign musicians" should be rejected, and innkeepers were forbidden to admit them.

The contents of the first volume had been partially made known by the Chetham Society, but those of the second, the one now under notice, are almost entirely new. Mr. J. P. Earwaker, the Editor, has done his work with scrupulous care and tireless industry, and has illuminated the text with an abundance of acceptable annotations. He has added, as before, a list of the uncommon, obsolete,

and dialect words which occur in the book, and a most exhaustive index. We have only touched cursorily upon a few points in this notice. The fact is that not until the work is completed and the whole story is before us, will it be possible to estimate at their value, or place in their right bearings, all the materials which are embedded in these old documents.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

The death is announced of Mr. Shakspeare Wood, the correspondent of the *Times* in Rome for the last fifteen years, and a resident in that city for thirty-five years. Mr. Wood was born in Manchester on November 13, 1827. Mrs. G. Linnæus Banks writes us as follows:—"It may not be generally known that Mr. Shakspeare Wood, the sculptor and correspondent of the *Times* at Rome, was a native of Manchester, and, I think, born in Oldham-street. At least, when he was quite a little boy, his father, Mr. Hamilton Wood, occupied the first house beyond Back Piccadilly, on the left-hand side from the Infirmary. Hamilton Wood was then a member of the firm of Wood, Rowell, and Co., Fountain-street. On the break up of the firm he went to London, and became either secretary or president of the Patent Wood Carving Company, until about 1846. He finished his career in rather unenviable notoriety, having run through the large fortune he gained with his wife, Sarah Anne, only daughter of Charles Bennett, Esq., of Newton Grange. It may be that the Wood Carving Company served to develop the genius for sculpture exhibited by both Shakspeare Wood and his brother, Warrington Wood, the sculptor of the Cobden statue in St. Anne's Square."

The *Athenæum* says:—Mr. Wood was one of the oldest members of the English colony in Rome, having settled there some thirty-five years ago. He was educated as a sculptor, receiving a portion of his training at the Royal Academy, and subsequently went to Rome to perfect himself in that branch of art. For some years he devoted himself diligently to sculpture, occasionally exhibiting at Trafalgar Square; and after a while he devoted much of his time to the topography of ancient Rome. He used to deliver lectures on the subject, which were much appreciated by English visitors, and in 1875 he published his *New Curiosum*

Urbis, a useful handbook for visitors. Meanwhile, he had gradually deserted sculpture for journalism, and became connected with the *Times*, first as an occasional contributor, and then as its regular representative. The duties of a correspondent he discharged with great zeal and tact, being particularly careful as to the authenticity of the news he forwarded. In the times of Pio Nono he encountered great difficulties from the dislike of the Papal Government to newspapers. He had become somewhat of a favourite of Cardinal Antonelli, who liked him for his artistic tastes; but when he waited on the cardinal, and, saying he had become connected with the *Times*, inquired about some political matter, the minister said coldly, "Signor Wood, the Church has no need of the press," and bowed him out. Afterwards his difficulties were scarcely less, as he had to steer a middle course between the Vatican and the Quirinal. The best proof of his success was that while he was looked on favourably by the clericals, he was the only foreign correspondent asked to attend King Humbert on his visit to Sicily, when there was fear of political scenes, and the Italian Government wished an impartial reporter to be present. Mr. Wood will be much missed by English visitors to Rome, to whom he always showed exceeding kindness and hospitality. Nothing seemed to delight him more than to give up whole days to showing them the antiquities of the Eternal City, and dilating on them with inexhaustible zeal and copious knowledge.

MEMORIAL TO THOMAS CARLYLE.—On Saturday a memorial tablet to Thomas Carlyle was fixed in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. There is a quaint incongruity and irony about the whole thing that would have pleased—or, rather, amused—Carlyle himself. Carlyle lived in Cheyne Row, Chelsea, at No. 24. The house is well known. Americans, and even Englishmen, pay pious pilgrimages to look at it. But the premises have got into Chancery, and there they still are. Consequently, it was impossible to get adequate permission to fix the tablet, and it is now stuck up on the side wall of No. 49, in Cheyne Walk. Old Chelsea is rapidly disappearing, and its few relics are proportionately precious. It has been improved out of existence. The noted bun-house, Don Saltero's, and other such places which had memories of their own, are gone. Even old Battersea Bridge is now being pulled up by the roots; and Cremorne Gardens (which might have been preserved with their noble trees as a place of public recreation) have fallen a prey to the speculative builder, and are now the "Cremorne Estate" in small flats.

Saturday, February 20, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

SHAKSPERE WOOD.

(Nos. 3,712, 3,724, 3,735, 3,748, and others.)

[4,187.] Some interesting particulars of this gentleman were printed in your columns at the above references. Mr. Wood's name must be added to the lengthening record of Lancashire Authors, not only on account of his contributions to the *Times*, but by reason of several independent brochures. The Manchester Free Reference Library has a copy of the following (Press mark, 380, M. 18):—

The Vatican Museum of Sculpture. A Lecture, delivered before the British Archaeological Society of Rome, on the 19th of March, 1869, previous to visiting the Museum by Torchlight. By Shakspeare Wood, Sculptor, and Honorary Secretary of the British Archaeological Society of Rome. (Rome, 8vo., pp. 46.)

The British Museum possesses two other works by him:—

The Capitoline Museum of Sculpture. A Catalogue. (Rome, 1872, 8vo.)

The New Curiosum Urbis: A Guide to Ancient and Modern Rome. (Rome, 1875, 8vo.)

CHARLES W. SUTTON.

* * *

As the current volume of the *Manchester Notes and Queries* already contains several references to the late Mr. Shakspeare Wood, I trust that the obituary notices in the *City News* of February 13 will be transferred to the reprint for convenience of reference. Mrs. BANKS has, however, repeated a mistake which appeared last July (No. 3,960) with regard to the name of one of the deceased's brothers, as in No. 3,980 your correspondent J. B. G. showed that whilst the late Marshall Wood, who executed the Cobden statue in St. Anne's Square, was Shakspeare Wood's brother, John "Warrington" Wood belongs to a different family, and adopted his distinctive second name from his native town.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

SHOOTING STARS.

(Query No. 4,140, January 2.)

[4,188.] It is now nearly two months since the Editor courteously gave insertion to the following query:—

Supposing the prevalent theory that shooting stars are planetary or cometary bodies that fall

within the sphere of the earth's attraction, and ultimately, in one shape or another, to its surface, thus obviously increasing its mass, what is the effect, first, in relation to the mean diameter of the moon's orbit round the earth; and, second, in relation to the earth's orbit round the sun?

And as no one has thought proper to take any notice of it, it seems to me desirable to make some apology or explanation for having proposed it. From the first introduction of this interesting element of Notes and Queries into the economy of the *City News* I have felt the liveliest interest in its successful career. Of its usefulness and prosperity the five handsome volumes of re-issue, already published, bear ample testimony. They discover a great deal of information of and about many things both of local and general interest, attainable in no other way. Somewhat shyly and may be slyly, I have several times attempted to impart a little more variety, and would fain hope, without any diminution in the value of the series, to introduce questions of a scientific and philosophic nature. I am not unacquainted with, or unmindful of, the strong bias and the fastidious taste our conductor has for purely literary work, nor shall I ever be impatient with him so long as he can occasionally favour us with notes from my friend Mr. J. E. Bailey upon good, learned, and praiseworthy men, their history and works, whether in writing books, building houses, or in any way contributing celebrity to a family; so long as Mr. Leo Grindon teaches botany in the bewitching language of poetry; or Mr. John Mortimer, as if shy of telling us how much he himself is in love with Nature, makes up for us charming literary bouquets culled from the richest garden fields of the English classics; or if the large-hearted and cultured Mr. Alexander Ireland will now-and-then favour us with a contribution like unto the one printed from his pen in the *City News* of Saturday, February 6.

I may be told, and it is true in relation to the city readers of the *City News*, that we get more than enough, perhaps, of science in the reports of the many scientific societies in Manchester, but I doubt not there are many readers who, like myself, live at a distance in the country and on the borders of the moorlands, that would be glad to participate personally in the improvement and enjoyment derivable from the discussion of questions connected with science and philosophy. Science and philosophy are to literature what the

bones and blood are to the human body. To live exclusively on soft food and jelly-slops is no more conducive to mental than it is to bodily health and strength. It was not for the sake of a merely technical knowledge of geometry that Plato forbade those ignorant of it to enter his academy. With him accuracy, sequence, and steadiness were of more importance than fluidity of thought and volubility of expression. It is true that men with a genius for science are not nearly always possessed of high literary ability, but *cæteris paribus*, the excellence of literature is always proportionate to the scientific and philosophic spirit; in other words, the spirit of truth, upon which it is founded, and by which it is animated. Just recently, in one of our monthly reviews, we have had a striking proof and illustration of this, in a controversy between one of the most eminent men of science in our day and a famous statesman, marvellously gifted with the power of speech, of the finest educational training, and perhaps the most accomplished master of dialectics this or any other country ever produced since the time of Socrates. The secret of Professor Huxley's unquestionable superiority, both in matter and style, over his opponent, is discovered in this neat and well-deserved rebuke: "I have professed no 'minute acquaintance' with either Indian or Greek philosophy, but I have taken a great deal of pains to secure that such knowledge as I do possess shall be *accurate* and *trustworthy*."

May I be allowed in a very few words to set forth one other plea in favour of the introduction, occasionally into our Notes and Queries columns, of philosophical questions? They induce and demand thought. The habit of thinking is as essential to the growth of mind as the cultivation of the soil is to the production of food. I know that such things have a certain value, but I can no more be provoked to think over a list of genealogy, a "breeches Bible" or the history of an obsolete name, than the American humourist could be moved to shed tears over an old Roman water-jug!

I will now attempt to answer the query, the apparent simplicity of which may have evoked a smile rather than reply from many people. I was led to propose it on account of several insuperable objections to the prevalent theory respecting the origin of shooting stars and other meteors. If they are cosmical, that is, composed of planetary or cometary matter that descends to the earth, as Sir

John Herschell, in his latest utterance of opinion upon the subject, said "astronomers more than suspected," then there must be a continual addition to the earth's mass, and consequently a proportionate increase of its attractive power, the direct effect of which would be to draw the moon nearer to it, and thus shorten the mean diameter of the moon's orbit, accelerate its velocity therein, and decrease the length of the lunar month. Similarly, would the earth and the sun be brought nearer to each other, and a corresponding contraction in the length of the year take place.

Now, curiously enough, from a period much farther back than that to which the history of Astronomy extends, there has been an acceleration in the mean motion of the moon in its orbit amounting to about ten seconds in a century, an apparently very small quantity, but which, if persisted in long enough, would in the end bring the satellite down upon us. Such a catastrophe was held to be not only possible but certain by many astronomers, till La Place showed the phenomena to be due to a progressive diminution in the eccentricity of the earth's orbit, which movement, however, will cease at a calculable limit, and will take an opposite direction, that is, an increase of the eccentricity will begin, and with it a slight increase in the mean diameter of the moon's orbit, and a consequent extension of the lunar month. At present it is not known that there is any irregularity in planetary movements which cannot be accounted for and explained by the principles of universal gravitation, though assuredly enough, as geological science clearly shows that, as the constitution of the earth has had a beginning so also will it come to an end, but probably not for trillions of years yet to come.

Professor Tyndall, quoting the authority of Mayer, who shares with our eminent countryman, Mr Joule, the honour of having discovered the law of equivalency between heat and mechanical power, says: "It is they (the asteroids) which, *when* they come within the earth's atmosphere, and are fired by friction, appear to us as meteors and falling stars." I respectfully submit there is not a particle of trustworthy evidence that asteroids ever fall upon the earth. "Shooting stars," countable in millions annually, flit about in all directions in the upper regions of the atmosphere, which, if constituted of planetary matter, must fall upon the earth and be perceptible in some form or other. Some twenty-two

or twenty-three years ago, as many were seen flying about in three November nights, as had they been fragments of a planet it must have formerly been as big as the moon (!), but not a particle of dust was seen or felt to fall anywhere. They are phenomena which have been observed from time immemorial and probably as great in number as at this day. Is it conceivable that had they been extra-terrestrial matter they would not have made a sensible addition to the size of the earth?

We have stories of solid meteoric stones having fallen from the skies, not one of which in my opinion is one whit more credible than the one of the transportation of Joseph's house from Nazareth across the Mediterranean to Loretto, or the one told of the famous black stone of the Caaba at Mecca. Lelande, the French astronomer, gives an account of two which fell near Bresse in 1753, one of which he says was nearly circular (not globular, mark), and weighed 20lbs. It sunk to the depth of six inches in the ground. Another Frenchman tells a story of one that fell in the Department of the Maine in 1760, which was found half buried in the earth, and weighed exactly seven and a half ounces! Now, we know that if a solid body from a state of rest fall only from a height of fifty miles it will acquire a velocity of 120,000 feet per second. What happens to a cannon ball when shot against a target with a velocity of only 3,000 feet per second?

Sir John Herschell himself gives an account of a comet, through the tail of which the earth passed, but says nothing of any cometary dust having fallen. He tells of another that made its way through the satellites of Jupiter without causing the slightest disturbance amongst them! Let me ask, is it not time a better theory for "shooting stars" were sought for?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

ACKER'S GATE.

(Query No. 4,185, January 13.)

[4,189.] Acker's (or Acres) Gate was a very cramped and narrow passage into St. Anne's Square (*The Square*) from the back of the then Exchange, an oblong building facing the Market Place, and having open arches for the shelter of dealers and others. A rider coming from Market-street would have to pass behind the Exchange building and turn abruptly into Acker's Gate, then lined with shops, which must have been wofully dark. It was this narrow and abrupt turn into Acker's Gate, in the

days before the Paving and Lighting Act was passed, that obtained the designation of "Dangerous Corner." Acker's Fair was held in St. Anne's Square.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

MANCHESTER IRONFOUNDERS.

(Query No. 4,176, February 6.)

[4,190.] Tradition amongst old iron moulders, or iron founders, assumes that cast-iron founders existed at a very early date in Manchester, but I know of no reliable evidence at this time as to the proof of such assertions. Probably such may yet be forthcoming. If so it will be interesting to members of the iron trades. It is claimed that a foundry existed in 1700 at Scotland Bridge, called "Ryder Randys." It is curious that in the earliest known Directory of Manchester, by Eliza Raffald (previously a housekeeper to the Hon. Lady E. Warburton), is to be found the name of "Thomas Ryder, Founderer," whatever that may mean. In the same book the names of two other founders are given, but they are distinguished as "brass founders." In the same work for the following year, 1773, the entry is again found as "Thomas Ryder, founder," though it still gives distinctively to others "brass founders." About 100 years ago, the following iron founders carried on their trade in the town, but I cannot ascertain at present which was the earliest:—James Bateman, iron founder, Water-street; Thomas Newton, iron founder, Newton-street; John Smith and Co., iron founders, Shudehill Pits; Flether Phebe and Co., iron founders, Red Bank. These names are to be found in the Directory for 1788, but as no directory is known for fifteen years before this one, there is plenty of margin to find which was first. I am not acquainted with Red Bank neighbourhood, and wonder if the Scotland Bridge shop (1772) and Red Bank above are the same. In 1810 Radford's and Waddington had a foundry at Scotland Bridge. It would be interesting if some one could say if it was the same old building. I think the first iron founders in Salford were Bateman and Sherratt, Hardman-street, Salford, 1792.

WILLIAM GIBBONS.

Middleton-street, C.-on-M.

SPANKING ROGER AND THE MYNSHULL ESTATE.

(Nos. 4,146, 4,152 and 4,180.)

[4,191.] Mr. WILLIAM RISHTON is eager for controversy; he should, therefore, be accurate. He ought not, for instance, to record that, by two deeds,

a gentleman, "by his wife," bequeathed certain properties and appointed executors.

Of Mrs. Dorothy Nabb or her children (except Barbara Mynshull, if she was one) I know nothing beyond that Mrs. Nabb was an annuitant (as hereafter mentioned) under her grandson's will; but I can say positively—not on the authority of my "memory," or on that of "a book which contains a copy of the whole affairs," but on the authority of actual evidence of title now in my office safe:—

1. That Thomas Samuel Mynshull did not directly give the estate "to his mother, Barbara Mynshull, her heirs and assigns for ever," but to his mother "and her assigns" for her life only; then to his three trustees in fee simple, upon trust to apply the rents for the life benefit of Mrs. Rivington; then to hold the property in trust for her issue (sons and daughters successively) in tail general; or, in default, upon trust to apply the rents for the life benefit of the testator's uncle, George Mynshull; afterwards for that of the latter's daughter, Elizabeth Louisa; then to hold the land in trust for that lady's issue (sons and daughters successively) in tail general; with an ultimate trust, in case of failure of the foregoing trusts, for Mrs. Barbara Mynshull, her heirs and assigns for ever.

2. The £1,500 legacy to Mrs. Rivington was conditional.

3. The £50 was an annuity, not a pecuniary legacy, to Mrs. Nabb.

4. The property was never "conveyed by way of mortgage to William Cowper, Peter Marsland, and George Duckworth." It was sold to William Cooper, Samuel Marsland, Peter Marsland, and George Duckworth.

5. The purchase money (not mortgage money) was £42,914, and not "upwards of £43,000."

6. It was the three survivors of these joint purchasers who, with the concurrence of the executors of the deceased joint-purchaser, effected a partition of the estate; the proprietorship being divided into four, not three, shares.

7. This partition was completed in one day (the fourth of July), and by one deed (a feoffment), and not on two days.

My four previous corrections of your correspondent I, of course, confirm.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

QUERIES.

[4,192.] LORD BEACONSFIELD'S MOTHER.—Some years before Lord Beaconsfield's death we read that he had renewed the epitaph on his father's tombstone, but his mother was not named. Is it known who she was, and when she died? OLD TRAFFORD.

[4,193.] SONG OF A WAXWORK SHOW.—Where can the recitation beginning as under be got? It is written under the signature of "Munroe," and is an account of the waxwork show at the Star Inn, Bolton:—

I forget the day and date,
'Twas in eighteen forty-nine;
I spent a jovial evening
With a friend or two of mine.

S. B. BRAMMALL

[4,194.] THE BUCKSTONES BRIGANDS.—Under this name a brief account is given in the *Saddleworth Sketches* (p. 105) of a gang of thieves who dwelt in a lonely house named Buckstones, on the high road leading from Oldham through Junction to Scammonden and Halifax, and who are believed to have been concerned in the murder of Mr. Horsfall, a manufacturer, of Marsden. When the law eventually got hold of them, one of the "brigands" I believe turned king's evidence; and I shall be glad to learn where I can find a report of the trial or any further information respecting these outlaws.

DE FORESTA

THE LEDGER OF A MANCHESTER SHOEMAKER, 1756-1765.

I am curious to ascertain the name of one of the chief boot and shoe makers of this town during the years 1756-1765, as also the position of his shop; and I shall be obliged to any one, in whose care any old bills or other accounts remain, who would endeavour to supply the information.

My curiosity in this inquiry has arisen from a recent examination of a sadly mutilated and bescribbled Day-book or Ledger of a Manchester tradesman following that business. In turning over the leaves of the book, which also contains other matter of later date, I began to entertain the hope of finding in it the record of the measure of the foot of our most eminent townsman, Dr. John Byrom, the thong of whose shoon, one might say without irreverence, no cobbler in the

town was worthy to untie, notwithstanding that as proper men as ever trod upon neat's leather have gone upon that handiwork. But though Byrom's name did not occur, those of many of his friends turned up, who imparted a very considerable interest to the examination of the items. No little of the character and pursuits of the customers of our shoemaker appear from the entries—*ex pede Herculem*. One can determine, for instance, who took the most delight in riding, who engaged in the sports of the field, who trod the stage in "Jonson's learned sock," or who was fond of attending the dancing assemblies of Lady Bland at Hulme Hall. The accounts also afford indications of the number of persons in a family or household; and in this respect the details are as valuable, if as dull, as a herald's pedigree. This local son of the awl sold his wares, invoiced often under what are now forgotten names, to some of the best families in town and neighbourhood. A few of them claim to be re-introduced to Manchester readers, after so long an interval.

There are several members of the family of Diggles, who seem to have brought from London the taste for wearing London boots. One of them lived in Deansgate. The shoes and pumps which satisfied Dr. "Digels" were 5s. per pair, and that is about the average price of substantial articles throughout the Ledger. Pumps, the dictionary reminds us, is *quasi* pomp, so called from being used on showy occasions. A pair of girl's boots cost half-a-crown. Squire Ashley, of Ashley Hall, is debited with a pair of shoes "linde and bounde" for his wife, costing 4s. 6d. Mr. Ashton Blackburn appears to have been a Nimrod, revelling in horses and riders. On 20 October, 1578, he is charged for "5 pra. of Best Sticht Shoes, and you found hupper leders [upper leathers], at 5s. 6d. per peare, £1. 7s. 6d." This person also flourished as one of the Manchester Toxophilites, for in 1762 he purchased a leather quiver, price 14s. "John Booth Goar," Esq.—who ought rather to be called Gore-Booth—and his family of boys appear likewise as good customers. Peter Brookes, Esq., who seems to be the well-known Brooke of Mere, Cheshire, occupies two pages with pumps and other elaborate garniture for his feet. This gentleman, whose brains appear to have been in his toes, was famous for attending balls

and getting up "assemblies." From the items in the account of Dr. Hall, one's thoughts insensibly revert to his lukewarm courtship of the lady whom he afterwards married, commemorated by Byrom's expostulatory epigram:

A Lady's love is like a candle snuff
That's quite extinguish'd by a gentle puff;
But with a hearty blast or two, the dame,
Just like the candle, bursts into a flame!

Members of the Hibbert family are also recorded, the heads of which were Mr. Robert and Mr. Samuel. Like the Roman Cobbler already quoted, our Manchester man was "withal a surgeon to old shoes," recovering them when in danger, for careful customers.

There is an elaborate account-current under the name of Thomas "Lee" of "Adlinton," Esq., whose "boy," coachman, and groom came to be fitted throughout many years. "Sir Peeter Lester," of Tabley, it is found, was fastidious about the furniture of his feet, and wore very expensive shoes. "Lady Lester," his wife, had a pair of "pumps" in October, 1759, which cost 9s. 6d. "Callemanka pumps," whatever they were, appear in these and other bills. Mrs. Budworth had a pair of "stuff shoes" made up for 3s. 3d.; and the pedal equipment of her daughter cost smaller sums. Miss "Lide," i.e., Lloyd, of the future banker's family, is charged 2s. 6d. for "meacking" up a pair of velvet shoes. For a pair of boots, with "best London bodde legs," Mr. Sheple (Shepley?) paid 23s. 10d. The shoes and clogs of Miss Gee cost 6s. 6d.

These and other items relating to the adornment of the pretty feet of the fair—which, "like snails did creep a little out, and then, as if they played at Bo-peep, did soon draw in again"—remind us, by the way, that we have in the pages of the Ledger fallen into the era of the change in the social life of the town due to the extension of trade and the consequent prosperity of the trading class. The evening tea-drinkings of the ladies were becoming customary, and the habit was being taken up by poor people. It was in the year 1756, the very year when our tradesman opened his shop or began this new Ledger, that a cobbler named Joseph Stot (supposed to be Robert Whitworth, the printer) wrote in very strong terms against the growing popularity of those cups which twenty years later were said by

Cowper to cheer but not inebriate. Whitworth himself had acquired a good taste for honest liquor at the hostelrys called "The Angel" and "The Bull's Head," which conveniently flanked his shop on each side. He asserts that forty years ago, i.e., from 1716, not six families in the town drank "so tasteless a slop" as tea. He had also noticed that in the case of the "Penny-pye woman's Hawker," the habit of drinking it had brought on "Hystericks"—"a disorder this town never heard of in the reign of good Queen Nan." Stot, the cobbler, suffering from the changes in the habits of the townsfolk, is represented as coming to Whitworth from that part of the Market Place, overlooking, as is said, "a very busy part of the town," where the poor burgrave cobblers set up their shrouds to St. Crispin:

Vicum vendentem thus et odores;

and as being full of resentment against the modern manners which were affecting his craft, all due, as he says, not to idleness, but to Pride—rank Pride. Whitworth, anxious to print the cobbler's protest, took him into the Angel and treated him to a beef-steak and two tankards of excellent Porter; and then, bringing him back to the office, "deliver'd me two Pens, a Thumb-Bottle of Ink, and six sheets of paper; condescending even to lend me Bailey's *Dictionary*, and to set me right in the spelling of words." Stot, in the course of the amusing argument of his tract, well spelt and well put together, relates how his "brother Dick, who was a soldier in Spain, has often told me that he went to a Spanish cobbler to get his shoes mended. The Spaniard was sat before his door, with a sword by his side, and a Guittar (I think he call'd it) in his hand; and being desired by my brother to cobble his shoes, he pulled out four pieces of Eight [i.e., four piastres*], and swore, by the mother of G-d, he would not work for the King till that were spent! He was an old Christian, and valued no man. Now, I dare say, that the Spaniard's Disease was not Idleness, but Pride."

Turning over some further leaves of the Ledger, here and there filled with the wings of flies and other dusty fragments, and here and there marked

*My little daughter when asked to look for the value of this coin pointed out a passage well illustrating it in *Don Quixote*, chap. ii.

with traces of cobblers' wax, we resume our review of the names. Of literary persons we meet with Ashton Lever, Esq., the virtuoso of Alkrington, who was frequently at the shop. A more distinguished customer is, however, found in Robert Thyer—most execrably spelt "Thoia"—who had the honour to be noticed in Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*. The Rev. Mr. Mosley purchased an elaborate pair of "splatterdashes" for 7s. 6d., in March, 1757. If this clergyman were then living at his lonely and low-lying house at Turf Moss, between Chorlton-cum-Hardy and this village, he would, in that watery month stand in severe need of these articles. Splatterdashes were then always part of the equipment of a British soldier on campaign. The "Rev. Mr. Griffes," i.e. Griffiths, also appears, with a brother. There are likewise members of the important families of the Lloyds and their associates the Sedgwicks. "The Honrabel St John Barro" was a customer from 1759 to 1765. It is interesting to meet with a Grammar-school boy, who gets two pair of boots in April, 1756, at 4s. 9d. per pair. He is entered as "Mr. Madack at Mr. Pernal's," i.e., Hinton, son of Thomas Maddock, goldsmith, of Chester; he was a boarder at the house of the headmaster, the Rev. Henry Purnell, M.A. It was another pair which shod the boy when he went up to Oxford a few years later. We meet with another famous Doctor of the town in the person of "Dr. Manning," i.e., Peter Mainwaring, M.D., of Ashton-on-Merseybank and Manchester, associated with Byrom in a life-long friendship. He had in 1731 married into the influential family of the Malyns, of Manchester and Ashton-on-Mersey; and it was he who from horseback, at the critical moment in 1745, urged the populace of Manchester to arm themselves against the rebels, and who rode off to Stretford and Ashton to rouse the country-folk, sending the villagers into the town, armed with scythes, sickles, and other implements at the end of mopsticks. He became one of the founders of the Manchester Infirmary, and was one of the earliest physicians of the House of Recovery, as Dr. Renaud shows in his recent history of the latter charity. A Doctor at that time was most unprofessional and insignificant without a cane; and one of the fraternity in the present Ledger gets his "kane" tipped. Amongst other

"detters" may be briefly mentioned Mr. Bazley, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Jonathan Philips, Mr. Bancroft, Esquire Cheetham, and Captain Dukinfield.

This short account of the shoemaker's Ledger may be fittingly concluded by some reflections upon the contemporary shoe-making of the town, from the pen of the same Cobbler Stot, who heretofore interrupted our review. He is still found to be censuring the Pride—rank Pride—of the prospering town-folk, and reverts to the frugality of their sires. He says: "I have just now worked half a Century [i.e. 1750-1756] in underlaying the Pedestals of my Neighbours; and I can remember cobbling the Shoes of many an Honest Man, to whose Industry and Care the Splendor of this Town is owing, whose Sons would blush to see their Shoes hung up in my Stall. I can tell them, however, their Fathers were better Men than themselves, notwithstanding I cobbled their Shoes; they were laborious, careful, frugal, yet generous Masters. Nay, to the Honour of my old Masters I will say, I hardly know any single Instance of a large Fortune gain'd in Town, but the Man who laid the Foundation of it was of very inferior Substance, and a Customer of mine; whilst those who brought a great deal of Money into Town, and so thought it beneath them to be cobbled by Me, never got anything but a Grave, or a Goal, or made their escape with their Skin only."

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

THE ALBATROSS AT SEA.—We always have a bodyguard of abatrosses, Cape hens, and sea-hawks—the same birds, so the sailors said, following the ship without resting all the way. I know not whether this be so, or how the fact has been ascertained. One large gull is very like another, and the islands in the middle of the passage are their principal breeding-places. Anyway, from fifty to a hundred of them were round us at sunrise, round us when night fell, and with us again in the morning. They are very beautiful in the great ocean solitude. One could have wished that Coleridge had seen an albatross on the wing before he wrote the *Ancient Mariner*, that the grace of its motion might have received a sufficient description. He wheels in circles round and round, and for ever round, the ship—now far behind, now sweeping past in a long rapid curve, like a perfect skater on an untouched field of ice. There is no effort; watch as closely as you will, you rarely or never see a stroke of the mighty pinion.—*Froude's Oceana*.

Saturday, February 27, 1886.

NOTES.

ROGER AYTOUN AND THE DRINKWATERS,
[4,195.] In the Army List for 1810 I find the "Lancashire Regiment" of Foot was the Forty-seventh, Was this formed after the Seventy-second (volunteers) was disbanded? And I find the name of Roger Aytoun as lieutenant of the *Ninety-second* Regiment Foot, his commission dating from April 14, 1808. And in the *Manchester Historical Recorder* (John Heywood's undated edition), p. 63, may be read (Anno 1797):—

In Trinity Church, Salford, there is a neat white marble monument with the following inscription:—

Sacred to the memory, of Thomas Drinkwater Major of His Majesty's 62nd Regiment of Foot, who perished at sea, on his return from the West Indies, the 23rd of April, 1797, aged 32 years.

Thrice had his foot Domingo's island prest,
'Midst horrid wars and fierce barbarian wiles;
Thrice had his blood repell'd the yellow pest
That stalks gigantic through the Western Isles:
Returning to his native shores again,
In hopes t' embrace a father—brother—friends,
Alas! the faithless ratlin snaps in twain—
He falls, and to a watery grave descends.

Major Drinkwater was the second son of John Drinkwater, M.D., and Eliza Andrews, his wife, who are buried in the centre aisle of this chapel; and this monument was erected by his only surviving brother, Lieut.-Colonel Drinkwater, as an affectionate tribute to his memory.

John Drinkwater, M.D., of Salford, father of General Drinkwater, the author of the *History of the Siege of Gibraltar*, died March 16.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE PLACE-NAME BACUP.

[4,196.] A few years since an animated discussion took place in the newspapers on the meaning and origin of the place-name Bacup; but, so far as I can recollect, no satisfactory or even probable derivation was arrived at. It may be that if the subject were revived in Notes and Queries a little fresh light might be thrown upon it, and therefore I, as one desirous of seeing the matter further investigated, would offer a few remarks with a view to turn the discussion into another channel for those who may be sufficiently interested to pursue it.

In my opinion all authorities, including the historian of Whalley, who have suggested derivations, have ended by deepening instead of dissolving the

mystery in which the origin and meaning are involved. "Under hill" and "red deer hill" have both been termed synonymous with "Backcop"—this being held to be the original spelling; but the presumption may be rejected for the substantial reason that the original orthography is as much a matter of obscurity as the etymology. "Bæcopp" is also claimed to be the Anglo-Saxon compound whence the modern designation is derived; but in this case the only reason advanced seems to be the similarity of pronunciation. "Bæc" is back—a noun, meaning the upper part of an animal and the top or summit of any other object, in which sense it could not justifiably be used in reference to Bacup. "Cop" expresses the same meaning as Bæc; hence Bæcopp, according to Dr. March (*East Lancashire Nomenclature*), simply means a place beneath or behind a Cop—a phrase belonging to the same class as our Back o'th Moss, Back o'th Law, Back of Behind, and Backhouse." It is not proved, however, that our Saxon ancestors employed bæc as an adjective or a preposition, or that it has ever been used interchangeably with "beneath." It is further stated that "Bacup is under a hill, or at the back of a cop, and therefore seems to be suitably named."

Now, according to modern ideas, Back o'th Moss may mean either the backside of the moss, or an unascertained place beyond the moss, and the same with regard to the other names in this category. In this sense Bæcopp means a cop behind a cop, or the backside of any cop; in either case the meaning is simply an idiomatic solecism. Besides, if we were quite sure that bæc was employed as a preposition, it is also certain that cop neither means a hill nor a hill-top exclusively. Hence, if I am right thus far, the construction which is sought to be placed upon Bæcopp is fundamentally erroneous. And were it otherwise, the deduction would not fit Bacup, which, though it lies at the feet of several hills, is really behind the top of none. We cannot suppose the first invaders of the district would select a place out of scores similarly situated and give it a name which was applicable to all of them equally, but to none of them particularly; unless the invaders brought the name with them, determined to drop it at the first place where they chanced to settle.

My conviction remains unshaken that any derivation of the name to be satisfactory must start from some other root than Bæcopp—that is, "a cop behind a cop." There is a very ancient place-name

in the dialect—perhaps the most ancient of any—namely, Coup, which I would suggest as a basis of further investigation. Bacup evidently is not a name originally given to a hamlet, but rather to a locality, to whose direct approach, in the primitive state of the Forest, Coupe Valley would be the *via media*. Back Coupe therefore seems to be a much more reasonable form of the original than any of the fanciful ones that have been suggested.

HENRY CUNLIFFE

Rochdale.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"THE DEITY."

(Note No. 4,155, January 23.)

[4,197.] There was published at Chiswick in 1823, as part 45 of Whittingham's Cabinet Library, a small volume containing poems on the following select subjects, viz.:—

1. The Grave..... By Robert Blair, A.M.
2. Death..... By Bielby Porteus, D.D.
3. The Day of Judgment ... By Robert Glynn, M.D.
4. The Last Day By E. Young, D.D.
5. Deity By Samuel Boyse.

With the view to establish the identity of the last-named poem with the one about which "W.C." made inquiry, I sought therein for the lines quoted in *Ten Jones*, and was curiously interested to find that some whilom possessor of the book had specially marked with pencil the very passage referred to. The poem contains about 1,100 lines, and is, without doubt a first-class production, although, for my own part, I think more highly of that on *Death*. I have endeavoured to discover particulars as to Samuel Boyse, I am sorry to say that, so far, I have not been successful

Liverpool.

R. F. B.

LORD BEACONSFIELD'S MOTHER.

(Query No. 4,192, February 20).

[4,198.] Benjamin Disraeli's mother was Maria, daughter of George Basevi, of London and Brighton, and aunt to George Basevi, the Hebrew architect, to whom we are indebted for the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Maria Basevi, bore to her husband Sarah, Benjamin (Islington, 21 December, 1804), Ralph, and James. Ralph, the deputy-clerk of the House of Lords, is the only one now living.

RICHARD HEMMING.

Ardwick.

* * *

In the *Dictionary of National Biography*, edited by Leslie Stephen, there is the following reference to Lord Beaconsfield's mother:—

Basevi, George (1794-1845), architect, was born in London, and educated by Dr. Burney, of Greenwich. He was the son of George Basevi, whose sister Maria married Isaac D'Israeli, and was the mother of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield. . . . The Conservative Club was his last important work. In this undertaking he was associated with Sydney Smith, A.R.A. In 1845 the same architects were appointed to rebuild the Carlton Club premises. Basevi died before the commencement of the work. He was engaged in inspecting the western bell-tower of Ely Cathedral, and fell and was killed on the spot.

THOMAS T. HAYES.

Leigh.

SHOOTING STARS.

(Nos. 4,140 and 4,188.)

[4,199.] Owing to an unusual lapse of care in copying a memorandum, an error, too important to leave uncorrected, got into my note on Shooting Stars in last week's *City News*. A body falling from a state of rest fifty miles above the earth's surface in its descent would acquire a velocity of 4,000 feet, and not 120,000 feet, per second, making allowance for the friction of the atmosphere. The sphere of the earth's attractive power in relation to that of the moon extends to a distance of 237,000 miles from its centre, or 233,000 from its surface. A piece of metal projected within that distance from the earth at the rate of one foot per second would, on reaching it, have acquired a velocity of 70,000 feet per second.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY seems to have entirely overlooked the effects of atmospheric resistance to solid bodies falling to the earth. The atmosphere is a shield and an immensely powerful brake and buffer against the momentum of any body coming in contact with the atmosphere and approaching the earth. The atmosphere would be practically a solid to a body coming against it with a velocity anything like 120,000 feet per second.

It is, I may say, impossible for any body to strike the atmosphere and pass in a line radial to the earth's centre, and therefore all bodies striking the earth's atmosphere from its exterior must do so at an angle, in which case they will be deflected like a cannon ball striking water at an angle to its surface, and such bodies must then take a course more or

less in a curved line, with a radius from the centre of the earth, but tending downwards. In this case the atmosphere acts as a powerful brake, and grinds up and dissipates the body passing through it so that it becomes harmless.

The wonder is not that we do not find many of these falling bodies, but that there is any of them left to be found on the surface of the earth after passing at the velocity at which they move through the earth's atmosphere.

P. J. L.

* * *

May I suggest to Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY that a similar process of accretion from meteoric bodies may be considered to take place to the mass of the moon as to that of the earth and the other planets, thereby keeping up their mutual balance and powers of attraction? Probably, also, a quantity of cometary matter falls into and replenishes the sun, either as fuel or by way of motive force converted into heat. If a "first-class" comet *were* to fall into the sun bodily, there might be such an access of his energy as to resolve Mother Earth once more to gases. "Casus valdè deplendus."

Also, as regards the depth to which our meteoric visitors are said to penetrate the soil; advancing at their enormous speed and entering the earth's atmosphere in a tangential direction to her body, they become at once inflamed by atmospheric friction and descend as incandescent, blazing fragments, only gradually assuming a direction perpendicular to the earth's surface—the whole process only occupying a few seconds of time, but sufficient for retardation,

H. A. S.

Blackburn.

ACRES GATE OR COURT.

(Nos. 4,185 and 4,189.)

[4,200.] There stood till 1777, at the bottom of Market-street Lane, a picturesque block of antique buildings with pointed gables. A drawing of it was taken by Mr. Barritt, copies of which may be seen in Croston's *Views of Old Manchester* and Proctor's *Memorials of Manchester Streets*. This drawing must have been executed some considerable time previous to the demolition of the property, as only one name on the shops agrees with the names of the tenants in the above year. A passage through this block leading to St. Anne's Square was called Acres Court (not Gate), and the precise locality would be the present Exchange-street. Mr. James Wheeler thus refers to the spot:—"St. Anne's Square was

similarly cut off from the present Market Place, to which the only avenue for passengers was a dark entry, and for carriages a gateway, adorned by a cobbler's stall; a narrow flight of steps led to the fashionable coffee-room of the town, which overhung it. The passage for pedestrians was appropriately designated as the Dark Entry."

Manchester Records inform us that, in 1777, the present Exchange-street was formed by pulling down a pile of old buildings called the Dark Entry, a narrow footway leading from the Market Place to St. Anne's Square; and further, that in 1780 an old man died in this year who remembered the site of St. Anne's Church and the present Square (formerly Acres Field) a corn field. A public subscription was opened and over £10,000 was raised for improving this locality, and the structure was swept away. Besides the tenants in Market-street Lane the following were named as occupying premises in Acres Court in the schedule of the Act of Parliament, when powers were being applied for:—William Wilcock, shoemaker; Abraham Milner, John Hall, innkeeper; Joseph Dawson, reedmaker; Peter Brook, plumber; William Crane, merchant. The coffee-room, which was then pulled down, was the Eagle and Child Coffee House, so often referred to in the histories of Manchester.

Ashley Lane.

JOHN MELLOR.

QUERIES.

[4,201.] ROBSON.—Can any reader give particulars respecting a Manchester wine merchant named Robson, who was murdered about the year 1771 or 1772, and whose property is said to have gone into Chancery and to have been recently claimed by somebody?

NEMO.

THE POET AND THE CHAMBERMAID.—A chambermaid at the Asquam House, Holderness, New Hampshire, made bold to ask John G. Whittier, when he was staying there, for his autograph. He complied with the request, signing his name after the following impromptu lines:

The truth the English poet saw

Two centuries back is thine—

"Who sweeps a room as by God's law

Makes room and action fine."

And in thy quiet ministry

To wants and needs of ours I see

How grace and toll may well agree.

Saturday, March 6, 1886.

NOTE.

THE MANCHESTER SHOE MAKER OF LAST CENTURY.

[4,202.] Having examined, by Mr. J. E. Bailey's kindness, the Ledger of the disciple of St. Crispin who shod the feet of the contemporaries of Dr. John Byrom, I am glad to be able to furnish the name. He was John Hughes, already known as a shoemaker of the town in 1739, when his daughter Anne was baptized at the Collegiate Church. There was also a Josiah, son of Henry Hughs, born in 1708, who followed the same calling, perhaps a brother; he died in 1766. John Hughes had, 8 January, 1733, married one Rachael Smith. There do not appear to be any gravestones in the churchyard relating to this family.

JOHN OWEN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BRATHWAITE'S "CORTICIUS" AND THE ASSIZES AT LANCASTER, 1636.

(Query No. 4,186, February 13.)

[4,203.] Your correspondent, Mr. WILLIAM WIPER, a very competent authority on all that concerns Richard Brathwaite, has asked a pertinent question which opens up a matter of some importance. The assize, to which the writer of *Mercurius Britannicus*, or *The English Intelligencer*, is referring in 1641, illustrated one of the unhappy results of the kingly rule without Parliament; and the "general passages" between the Judges and Sheriff are worth recalling. It was the Lent Assize of that year 1636 which began at Lancaster Castle on 4 April, before Sir George Vernon, a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and Sir Robert Berkeley, a Justice of the King's Bench, who frequently took the Northern Circuit, including Yorkshire. The summer assize fell in August, when the same judges attended. A letter addressed to them at Lancaster, as justices of assize for the county, from Humphrey Chetham, dated from Clayton Hall, 1 April, 1636, is printed by Hibbert-Ware in *The Foundations* (I., i., 270). A very valuable series of papers connected with these two assizes, consisting of 56 pages, was published in 1856 in an interesting volume (No. xxxix.) of the Chetham series, called *The Farrington Papers*. The following statement of the circumstances to which Brath-

waite alludes in his play is derived from that source and elsewhere.

In the year 1636, a man held in good esteem in this county, William Farrington, of Worden, near Preston, Esq., was appointed sheriff in succession to Humphrey Chetham, the wealthy clothier. Another Lancashire gentleman appears to have been destined for this office. Chetham's nephew, George, acting for his uncle in London, sends word to Manchester, 21 December, 1635, that he had been told by Nicholas, clerk of the Council, that the new sheriff had been pricked for, and that Lord Newburgh had told him that Sir John Talbot was to be selected; but a later communication stated that Farrington was Chetham's successor. The new sheriff, with the countenance of the country gentlemen, broke through a custom which had obtained during the shrievalty of the former years, of keeping, for the judges and their attendants, an open table for a full week at Lancaster. The documents printed seem to show, indeed, though they set forth the sheriff's side of the case only, that there were no shortcomings in service or hospitality. Country gentlemen, seventy-six in number, attended the sheriff on the occasion, wearing his cloth, some of them lending their family plate. The provisions and table decorations were also on a scale of hospitable magnitude. The range and supply of liquors was enough to tempt thither Drunken Barnaby, "a singular artist in pewter language," then on his travels in search of good beer. The first hitch in the proceedings arose in meeting the Judges, who, on an unusual day, Sunday, came to town by an unusual road, "by the Sand's-way," near Hest Bank. The sheriff at that emergency was in Lancaster Church, but leaving the service while the minister was preaching, he rode off to meet his important visitors, who, however, complaining that they had been met within one mile only of the town, instead of at "Le Sandseyde," censured the sheriff for disobedience, and fined him 100 marks. The first dinner had been prepared for this or a subsequent day at Mr. Farrington's house near the Castle; but because it was not served in the Castle as usual the Judges would not accept of the hospitality, either from the sheriff or the county. Lists of the prisoners are given, and no less than twelve persons, including women, were sentenced to be *sus. per coll.* Amongst the condemned was was one George Browne, who by some oversight was not in the dock when the judge passed sentence upon his fellows;

and he was not told that he was condemned until near the time of his execution. Affected by the man's pleading, the Sheriff postponed his execution and meanwhile communicated with the judges at Preston. For not carrying out the sentence, however, the Sheriff was fined £100; and there was another fine of £100 imposed for inattention in some point of detail. In general terms Mr. Farrington was deemed to have neglected his Majesty's service and shown disrespect to the Judges. The fines ultimately amounted to £700. At the Lancaster Assizes, 22 Aug., 1636, a statement of the fines amounts to £416. 13s. 4d. The Sheriff petitioned the King, and interested his friends in his case. By a letter dated 29 "Ju.," 1636, Lord Strange wrote in his favour to the Earl of Pembroke, then Lord Chamberlain. The fines were mitigated to £193, and finally to £160.

Of these two justices, Sir George Vernon was of Haslington, Cheshire, and his pedigree is in Ormerod, iii. 317, bearing out Brathwaite's statement that he was of distinguished family, and that he studied rather to retain his patrimony than to get gain. It is said by Whitelock that he paid money for his legal promotions. He became a Baron of the Exchequer, 13 Nov., 1627, and a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1631. The absence of any adverse comment upon Vernon in Brathwaite's *English Intelligencer* in regard to this Lancashire assize is due to the fact that they were intimates. In 1632 the poet had inscribed to him one of his serious books, *The Last Trump*, terming him a munificent patron of sacred literature, and stating that he was a man of upright character, and known for the pleasantness of his disposition, for the inviolability of his word, and for the sincerity of his conduct. Foss thus refers to his position in regard to the ship-money case against Hampden and to his death:—"In the great case of ship-money in 1637 he abstained from stating his reasons on account of his want of health, but delivered his opinion not only in favour of the charge, but also asserting that a statute derogatory from the prerogative did not bind the King, and that the King might dispense with any law in cases of necessity. For these ultra sentiments he escaped the retribution which in the parliament of 1640 visited those of his colleagues who pronounced a similar judgment, by his death, which occurred on Dec. 16, 1639, at his Chambers in Sergeants' Inn, Chancery Lane. He was buried in the Temple

Church." Brathwaite confirms some of these statements in *The Eng. Intelligencer*: "When he [i.e. Vernon, called *Vijetius*] should argue, hee fained himselfe sicke, and when he did enter the list (he most fortunately lost his arguments in the street), no man did ever offend with more brevity; and in this one thing gave a taste of his wisdom, in that hee died to prevent his censure." The interest attaching to him as a local man leads us to quote Brathwaite's epitaph upon him, which presents him in the light of a conscientious lawyer. The lines are found in the *Astræa's Teares* (an Elegy on Judge Richard Hutton), published in 1641, thus:—

A numerous book-man, who from severall places
Could store his pleadings with a thousand cases,
Which prov'd his studies were estrang'd from sloath,
His leaves not spider-wov'n nor known to moath;
As I've seen some, who shelv'd large volumes by them,
But knew not what was in them should you try them.
These take up Law and Learning upon trust,
And with a fox's taile brush off the dust
From their rare visited Authors.—Such as these
Account it their prime theory to get fees.

Brathwaite also says of the Judge that in the dispensation of justice neither price, prayer, nor power, could surprise, passion transform, nor affection engage him.

The Latinized names fastened by Brathwaite upon the Judges, in the passage quoted by Mr. Wiper, show that the writer is playing upon words. *Corticus* is a form of name not to be found in the old-fashioned Lempriere. But the Latin word *Cortix* at once suggests *Bark-ley*, then the common pronunciation of that name. It is thus written by Humphrey Chetham, who attended Judge Berkeley on circuit; it so appears in some of the reports of the Justices of the Lancashire Hundreds to the two Judges at their various assizes; and in the notable decision of the twelve Judges regarding ship-money, dated 7 Sept., 1636, Berkeley himself writes his name with an *a* (*Cal. State Papers, Dom.*, p. 418).

Sir Robert Berkeley was a native of Worcester, and was born in 1584. Foss gives the facts of his life. He was admitted to the Middle Temple in 1600, and called to the bar 6 May, 1608. In the passage referring to his youth Brathwaite had in mind Homer's lines in reference to Hermes, like to a youth when the down doth first the lip encircle. The estate of Spetchley, in his native county, Berkeley inherited from his father in 1611, and in 1613 he was sheriff of the county. In 1626 he was Autumn Reader of his Inn of Court. It was in

the following year that he took the degree of the coif, and he became a King's Serjeant. After being knighted he was in 1632 made a Judge of the King's Bench, and was frequently upon the Northern Circuit. His name often occurs in proceedings in Yorkshire. He and Vernon, while on circuit, 30 Dec., 1636, were requested by the Council to send to the Lord Keeper a list of four or more of the best persons in each county fit to be sheriffs. Brathwaite, in the *Intelligencer*, 1641, refers to a celebration of his birthday on some occasion with solemnity. In the first decision on the ship-money question, 7 Feb., 1636, already mentioned, his name forms the tenth signature; Vernon's precedes his; and Sir Humphrey Davenport, also a Cheshire man, comes third. Berkeley with his fellow-judges suffered for their decision; he himself was (astounding to relate) arrested in open court while sitting on the Bench, and he was most heavily fined. He died in 1656.

It may here be added that the connection of Richard Brathwaite with Lancashire is all along very interesting, and calls for further research. Several Lancashire persons are mentioned by him. The link was in all probability formed by his friendship with a Lancashire gentleman, Alexander Rigby, of Burgh and Layton, Esq., who in later times became a prominent Royalist. So far back as 1617, Brathwaite, writing his *Oenozythopeis, or the Smocking Age*, addressed therein some verses to "his worthy approved and judicious friend, Alexander Riggbly, Esq." If, as seems likely, Brathwaite were present at the Lancaster Lent Assizes of 1636, it would be the same friend who attracted him thither; for Rigby was then acting as Clerk of the Crown for the county Palatine, and it is seen by the Farrington papers that in that official capacity he signed the order for the execution of the twelve convicted criminals, including Browne, ordering, however, by a cruel refinement that one was to be reprieved—when his turn for execution came. Brathwaite's famous Journey, penned in "apt numbers," commonly chanted to the old tune of Barnaby, took place before 7th June, 1638. In this tipsy Pilgrim's progress, in which the writer seems to completely conjugate the verb *bibo* in both active and passive voices, he begins at "brave John a Gants old toune-a," a familiar place to him, and the principal scene of action in his romance urging faithful constancy, called *Two Lancashire Lovers*,—"that ancient

Towne of famous and time-honoured *Gaunt*," he there in the first sentence calls it, "for her antiquity of site no less memorably recorded than for those eminent actions of her princely progenitors renowned." Arrived there, Barnaby seems to have fallen into the good company of the very governor of the Castle, Mr. Thomas Covell or Cowell, who is a prominent figure in the Farrington proceedings of 1636, and whose evident familiarity with the concomitants of an excellent dinner led the Sheriff to engage him to prepare the meals for the Judges and other company at the Assizes—

Janitorem habens qualem,
Mundus vix ostendat talem,—
For a Jaylor ripe and mellow,
The world has not such a Fellow!

From Lancaster Barnaby travelled through Garstang to Preston, when, drinking much, but eating little, a prominent burgher entertained him a full week:

Septem dies ibi mansi,
Multum bibi, nunquam pransi;

and so on by way of Euxton, Wigan, Newton-le-Willows, Warrington, and over the border to the Cock Inn at Great Budworth,—

—where I
Drank strong ale as brown as berry,
until deep healths felled him.

The "Alexander" to whom this Journal was dedicated would seem to be the same Alexander Rigby just mentioned. The *Two Lancashire Lovers* already alluded to contained the "Excellent history" of Philocles and Doriclea. It was published in 1640, and was said to be by "the Palatine Muse." It was dedicated "to my truly generous and judicious friend, Alexander Rigby, Esq., Clarke of the Crowne for the County Palatine of Lancaster," who is assured that the hero and heroine are "two native plants of your owne country, branches derived from a faire and flourishing family." At page 18 there is a specimen of the dialect and country-tone of an "amorous lubber."

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

THE AUTHOR OF "THE DEITY."

(Nos. 4,155 and 4,197.)

[4,204.] Wright's Royal Dictionary Cyclopædia gives the following information about Samuel Boyes (not Boyse), the author of *The Deity*:—

Samuel Boyes. Born 1708. He was an author of great talent, but singularly imprudent, in consequence of which he suffered great distress. In 1740

his apparel and even his bed-clothes being pawned, he was accustomed to write in bed, having no covering but a blanket through which his arm was thrust. He closed his strange career of misery and dissipation in 1749, and was buried at the expense of the parish.

S. B. B. BRAMMALL.

ACKER'S GATE OR COURT.

(Nos. 4,200 and others.)

[4,205.] As between Mr. JOHN MELLOR and myself, though both in the right, truth is likely to go astray, it may be as well to quote Aston's *Picture of Manchester*, published 1816. He says, p. 10:—"At that time (1776) the way into St. Anne's Square from the Market Place was under a gateway similar in breadth to the entrance from the Market Place into Blue Boar Court, and by a footway denominated very properly the Dark Entry. Between the two passages were old buildings, which in 1777 were pulled down and a commodious way opened, which has formed the present Exchange-street. The streets which were then improved had long been a disgrace to the town. They had often doomed the unwary passenger to broken limbs, and sometimes to death." If Mr. MELLOR will refer again to Casson and Berry's plan, in Procter's *Memorials*, or the much clearer original, to be found in the Chetham Library, he may observe that the Exchange block stood in front of both these passages, but that the Dark Entry on the western side was built over, and so no thoroughfare is perceptible on the map. Acker's Court on the eastern side is open and wider and named, and, as I said in answer to the querist, a traveller riding down Market-street would pass behind the Exchange and turn at a dangerously sharp angle into this court on his way to the square.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE PLACE-NAME BACUP.

(Note No. 4,196, February 27.)

[4,206.] Mr. HENRY CUNLIFFE in his Note seems to make the following statements:—

1. The A.S. "bæc" was used only as a noun, in the sense of "tergum," and not as an adjective or preposition, in the sense of behind.

2. The place-names given by me as illustrative of Bacup can all bear the sense of "tergum."

3. The first syllable of Bacup cannot be "bæc," as Bacup is not on the top of a back; and the second syllable cannot be cop, as Bacup lies not under one cop but under several cops.

4. There is a place called Coupe, the meaning of which is not revealed; and as "back" means

"tergum," and as Coupe means nothing in particular, and as Bacup "lies at the feet of several hills," it is reasonable to suppose, after setting aside all "fanciful suggestions," that Bacup signifies the top or back of a coupe.

What I have to say in reply is as follows:—

1. It is in full accordance with the genius of our language that a noun, when prefixed to another, becomes an adjective, as in the familiar example rose-tree and tree-rose. Lye gives A.S. bæce=posteriora. King Alfred's Orosius has "bœcbord." St. John's Gospel, vi, 66, has "Sythan manega his leorning-cnyhta cyrdon on-bæc." Galfrid's dictionary, A.D. 1440, has "bakward or bakstale=a retro" (bakstale from A.S. bæc, and stæl=locus.) Such words as "backend," "backside," "backwater," "back-word," are by no means modern.

2. The place-names given by me, as illustrative of Bacup, all from this neighbourhood, were "Back o'th' Moss, Back o'th' Low, Back of Behind, and Backhouse." The last no doubt often means Bakehouse; but that it has, sometimes, the other meaning is pretty certain from the O.N. "à baki húsunum." (See also, "Backas," in Halliwell.) It seems to me obvious that "back" in all these instances means "rearward of" or "behind," and therefore, in most cases, "under." I am not aware of any place-name hereabouts in which the sense of "tergum" appears as "back"; it is as "edge," or "shelf," or "rigg," or "ridge" (O. N. hryggr=back, spine). The list of illustrative place-names from this district may be increased; as Backridge, Backclough, and Backsholfe (the old name for Bashall); and possibly the more distant Backbarrow. Back Lane is close to Bacup.

3. The etymology of some place-names is certain; of others it is tentative: this, until something better. I believe Bacup to be either bæc-cop or back-hope. I should prefer the latter, and would class Bacup with Widdup, Stirrup, Harrop, (vide *East Lancashire Nomenclature* p. 55), but the oldest spelling yet obtained, Bakcop, drives me to the former.

4. At the time when Bacup was spelt Bakcop, Coupe was spelt Cowhope, and earlier, Cuhopeheued, or Cow-hope-head, and it has nothing in the world to do with Bacup.

H. C. MARCH.

Rochdale.

QUERIES.

[4,207.] COST OF CHURCH BELLS.—Can anyone inform me about how much the cost of a peal of six bells would be?

INQUIRER.

[4,208.] RUY BLAS.—*Ruy Blas* is the name of a new opera to be played at the Theatre Royal next week by the Carl Rosa Opera Company. Information

requested as to the origin and meaning of the title; also the correct pronunciation. H.

[4,209.] THE HEDGEHOG.—What is the longest period a hedgehog has been known to hybernate? Are any experiments on record of the weights of one at the beginning and at the termination of a season of hybernation? Is it true that it can take large doses of prussic acid and live?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,210.] DR. WHITE.—It would be interesting to many travellers by the Bowdon line, and specially to those living in Sale, to know the origin of the prefix "Dr. White's" which is usually given to the bridge that spans the railway where it crosses Dane Road. I believe a monument exists to this same worthy in the adjoining ground, formerly connected with Mr. Murray's hunting stables. Who was Dr. White, and what was his claim to this distinction?

MOORLANDS.

MEMORIALS OF CHARLOTTE BRONTË.—A few days ago, at Saltaire, were sold a number of mementoes of Charlotte Brontë. They had come into the possession of Mr. Peter Binns, of that town, through his wife, who was a sister of Martha Brown, the domestic so long in the family of the Brontës. The authoress was not conspicuous for her artistic skill, much as she was admired as a novelist; and it says much for the fame she made by her pen that the water-colour drawings and pencil sketches, the outcome of her leisure moments, fetched prices so much above their artistic value. A water-colour of Floss, a favourite dog, was bought for £5. 10s.; a crayon drawing, a landscape, sold for £5; Welsh Peasants, £3. 3s.; A Fallen Tree, £2. 15s.; a pencil drawing, a garden scene, £2. 10s. But, apart from the fact that these crude efforts were the work of the eminent authoress, and worth preserving on that account, it is doubtful whether a London dealer would have given a £5 note for the lot. Far more interesting, and much more valuable, was the autograph letter from Charlotte Brontë to Martha Brown, which sold for five guineas, and the note from W. M. Thackeray to Patrick Brontë, Charlotte's father. This note, which sold for £2. 4s., was undated, but it referred to the arrangements for the delivery in Bradford by Thackeray of his lecture on George III. and George IV. A copy of *Jane Eyre*, presented by Charlotte Brontë to Martha Brown, May, 1850, with an inscription by the authoress, fetched 36s. The *Life of Charlotte Brontë*, by Mrs. Gaskell, two volumes, presentation copy to Martha Brown, 1857, with the autograph of the authoress, sold for 24s. Copies of *Villette* and *Shirley* realized 25s. and 26s. each; but the personal effects of the authoress gave rise to the briskest bidding. Charlotte Brontë's wedding shawl was purchased for £4. 15s., a pair of boots she had worn 27s., a print dress 15s., a pair of scissors 10s., and her corset 8s. Could literary worship go further?

Saturday, March 13, 1886.

NOTES.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

VII.

[4,211.] 3. The Founder himself (continued):—From the schedule of title deeds already mentioned, we learn of the following further purchases, by the Founder, of property in Blackley. By two Feoffments, dated respectively 3rd and 4th February, 17th James I., "John Joanes" and William Bowker conveyed to the Founder certain lands in Blackley, the whole of which had been granted to Wm. Bowker in fee by Sir John Byron and his trustees, on the 16th May, 9th James I. By Feoffment, dated 20th June, 19th James I., John Jackson conveyed to the Founder certain other lands in Blackley; by a Feoffment, dated 31st July, 19th James I., Joseph Costerdine conveyed to him other lands there; and by a Feoffment, dated 2nd April, 11th Charles I., George Dawson conveyed to him lands there which had been granted in fee to the former by the same Sir John Byron and his trustees, also on the 16th May, 9th James I. The Founder was one, and the first named, of the seven original trustees of Adam Chetham's endowment (under a deed, dated in 1625, and epitomized by Mr. Booker at p. 116 of his *Blackley*) for the "better maintenance of a minister to preach in Blackley chapel, and for the better relief and provision of the poor inhabiting within Blackley." It is the Founder's son, Humphry Booth the second, who is named in Bishop Bridgman's confirmation, in 1631, of the commissioner's award or allotment to certain parishioners of sundry seats in the ancient chapel at Blackley. (Harl. MSS. No. 2,103, Art. 104; and *Blackley*, p. 53.) Mr. Booker, in noting the plan of the chapel seatings or pew-holdings in 1603, commits the curious error of describing the "Mr. Booth," occupying one of the foremost seats, as "Mr. Booth of Booth Hall," whereas the first "Mr. Booth of Booth Hall" was not born until the year 1607, and Booth Hall was not built before 1639-40. The "Mr. Booth, 6s. 9d.," refers, of course, to the Founder; while the "John Booth" is, no doubt, the Founder's cousin, the yeoman of that name.

A memorandum, dated 23rd August, 1634—which, from a contemporary copy in my possession, I may publish *in extenso*, when treating in particular with

the Founder's eldest son (whom it more immediately concerns)—shows that a partnership then existed between the Founder and his younger son, Humphrey, and that the elder son had invested in the concern a sum of £1,228, "to bee traded with" by the two actual partners. This partnership is further evidenced by an expression (not appearing in Mr. Booker's version) which in his will (dated 31st Jan., 1634-5) the Founder uses when indicating certain materials for the charity coats—"the best whites which shall be in my house, or of mine at the mill, at the time of my decease."

From two original Leases, each dated in June, 1635, we learn that the Founder was, in that month and year, the freeholder of (1) "flowre Closes and parcells of land, with their appurtenances, in Highfield and Pendleton aforesaid, comonly called or knowne by the severall or other name or names of the *Marled Earth*, the *Broadfield*, the *Pingatt* and the *Mosse ffeild*, heretofore the Inheritance of one James Chourton deceased;" (2) "ffyve Closes and parcells of land, with their appurtenances, lyinge and beinge within the parish of Eccles, in the countie aforesaid, comonlie called or knowne by the severall or other name or names of the *Wallnees* and the *Bancks*, heretofore in the houldinge or occupacon of John Duncalfe, gent., deceased, or of his assignes;" and (3) "twoe Closes and parcells of land with their appurtenances in Salford aforesaid called the *Chequors* conteyning by estimacon twoe acres and an halfe of land or thereabouts heretofore the Inheritance of Sr John Radcliffe, knight, deceased." (Other local names given in the leases are Bernard Emott, of Salford, clothier; John Dawson, William Cooke, James Platt, Robert Ridge, Gerard Simkin, and George Pendleton.)

Each lease is well preserved, and bears the autograph of the Founder; the following being a facsimile (executed by Mr. Langton, the engraver,) of one of the signatures:—



One of the leases has lost its seal, while the other has retained a pendant armorial seal, whereon can be easily discerned the well-known bearings, "Three boars' heads couped and erect," without, however, any trace of *tincture* marks or signs of *difference*. The crest, which has undoubtedly once been impressed, is not now distinguishable.

I reserve, for a later note, my comments on the various arms of the Booths, in connection with the armorial bearings adopted by the Founder.

The following is a copy of a quaint release or discharge in favour of the Founder—a miniature deed which, it is curious to notice, bears the same date as the Founder's Will; the "last day of January," 1635-6.

Knowe all men by theis pr[esen]ts, That I Thomas heywood of manchester in the County of Lanc. ffuller have remysed released and for ever quite [=quit] Claymed And by theis pr[esen]ts doe remise release and for ever quite claime unto Humfrey Booth of Salford in the said Countye gent. his heires executors & administrators All and all manner of Accons [=actions] & causes of Account suite querels [querele = complaint to a court] trespasses acompts debts bills bounds duties & demands whatsoever wch I my executors administrators or assignes now have or can or may have claime or bringe of or against him them or any of them for or by reason of any matter cause or thinge whatsoever from the beginninge of the world untill the date of theis pr'ts Witnes my hand and seale the last day of January 1635 Annoque undecimo Caroli Regis.

Thomas Heywood

Sealed and deliu'ed In the
pr'ce & witnes of

[Seal]

Robt. Twyforde

Alexander Greene

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE BUCKSTONES BRIGANDS.

(Query February 20, No. 4,194.)

[4,212.] If DE FORESTA will communicate with me by letter, either through this office, if my address be unknown, or direct, I think I can supply the information he requires.

ISABELLA BANKS.

SONG OF A WAXWORK SHOW.

(Query No. 4,193, February 20.)

[4,213.] There are two songs—or "humorous recitations in verse"—about the Waxwork Show, both by R. Munro, and spoken by him at the Star Inn, Bolton. They are, of course, of a doggerel, or perhaps what we should call a patter, character. I

enclose a copy of each, printed by me over twenty-five years ago, and I can still supply them.

THOMAS PEARSON, Sen.

Chadderton-street, Oldham Road, Manchester.

BUY BLAS.

Query No. 4,208, March 6.)

[4,214.] "H." will find a full account of the play by Victor Hugo bearing this title, which has been set to music by Marchetti, in a useful shilling hand-book published by David Bogue, *The Opera Glass*, edited by Louis Alexander. Mendelssohn also composed an overture and chorus for soprano voices and orchestra to this play, the former appearing frequently as an attractive item in concert programmes. ONEZ.

DR. WHITE'S BRIDGE.

(Query No. 4,210, March 6.)

[4,215.] Dr. White's bridge is no doubt so called from its proximity to the Priory, a residence of Dr. Thomas White, a Manchester surgeon, who died in 1776. A monument erected to his memory exists in the grounds near to what was Mr. Murray's stables, and bears the following inscription:—

To the memory of Dr. Thomas White, who, after acquiring prominence in his profession, retired from its honours and emoluments to enjoy in rural tranquillity the pursuits of knowledge. Serene and cheerful through the declining period of life, he attained the eighty-first year of his age with faculties unimpaired, and died July 20, 1776. The good which he planted and reared is now in its maturity. Consecrated to his revered name by his only son, Charles White, who erected this monument A.D. 1790.

A tablet commemorating both father and son exists in the neighbouring Ashton Old Church. The foregoing is abstracted from the centenary volume of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, where a fuller account may be read, from the pen of the late Dr. Angus Smith. P. H.

* * *

In the latter half of the last century Mr. White, an eminent surgeon, occupied a large handsome house in King-street. It stood on high ground, with a terrace in front that was reached from the street by a flight of steps at each end; it covered the entire space between Cross-street and Cheapside, and about 1823 or 1824 was pulled down and the new Town Hall built on its site, now used as the Free Library. In 1757 Madam Beswick, an old lady, having a great

dread of being buried too soon, left an estate at Sale to Mr. White on the condition that she should be "kept above ground for a hundred years." This estate is still in the possession of his descendants, and it is easy to see why a bridge upon it should be called Dr. White's Bridge. A century since there was little distinction between Mr. and Dr. The old lady travelled about for many years, no one wishing for the care of her, when she was finally placed in the Museum of the Natural History Society, first in Colonel Ford's house in King-street, and then in the building in Peter-street. Many now living may remember the repulsive-looking mummy, swathed in ticking and standing upright in a wooden case. In 1857 the hundred years expired, and she was buried in the Harpurhey Cemetery. Even then the foolish will gave trouble, as there was some little difficulty about attesting the death, no one by any possibility being present at it who was living at the time of the funeral. The cause of this unusual will was, a relative of hers, Mr. Aldcroft, of Manchester, travelling abroad, was seized with fever at Malaga, supposed to be dead, and was on his way to be buried, when a friend of his, who had been from home at the time of the illness, met the funeral on his way back, and insisted on seeing his friend once more, and discovered that he was not dead.

P.

THE HEDGEHOG.

(Query No. 4,209, March 6.)

[4,216.] Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY asks whether Hedgehogs can take large doses of prussic acid and live. I beg to refer him to an article on the Hedgehog in *Chambers's Journal* for July 18, 1857, where it is stated "that it has one peculiarity which is very little known, but if properly investigated seems likely to lead to valuable discoveries. No poison of any kind will act upon its system. Pallas gave one a hundred cantharides, which the animal appeared to relish amazingly; while half of one of these acrid insects given to a dog or cat, would cause the most horrible torment. M. Leny caused one to be bitten several times in the throat and tongue by a viper; but without having the slightest effect; and Mr. Cuthbert Johnson, the well-known agricultural writer, states that prussic acid, arsenic, opium, and corrosive sublimate, have each been tried upon it, without producing the slightest indisposition."

BENJAMIN MILLER.

Didsbury.

SHOOTING STARS.

(Nos. 4,140, 4,188, and 4,199.)

[4,217.] It seems desirable to make a few remarks in answer to the couple of comments made upon my reply to this query.

1. I did not overlook nor forget to make allowance for atmospheric friction. It surely is unnecessary to give calculations of this kind in detail in the columns of the *City News*. In reference to the buffership of the gaseous envelope which covers the earth, may I ask "P. J. L." if he has never heard of a tallow candle being shot through a wooden board an inch thick from the muzzle of a common fowling-piece?

2. To "grind up and dissipate" [disperse?] is not to annihilate. Besides, how is it that any of these solid metecrites escape the grinding process? The atmosphere is always there.

3. If these bodies fall from the outer sphere of the earth's attractive power, they *cannot* enter the atmosphere in "a tangential direction." The law of falling bodies, uninfluenced except by gravitation, if projected at any angle, is to describe a parabola, which, as soon as the projectile force is exhausted resolves itself into a line invariably, infallibly directed to the centre of gravity of the earth. In relation to that centre the line is perfectly straight from a long distance beyond the atmosphere, but, of course, owing to the earth's progress in its orbit, the falling body describes a curve *in space*, the focus of which is not the centre of the earth.

4. If continual additions were made to the masses of the Earth and the Moon respectively, each would have its attractive power proportionally increased, with the inevitable result of bringing them nearer to each other, and both of them nearer to the sun. If similar additions were made to the sun's mass, all the planets would be drawn nearer to him. There is not a particle of evidence to show that anything of the kind ever happens to either the sun or any of the planets, but very much to the contrary.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

In addition to the light thrown upon the question raised by Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY, and enlarged by subsequent correspondence, allow me to give a reason why I think it probable that meteoric stones may reach the earth as such. It is now universally admitted that meteors move round the sun in elliptical orbits, extremely elongated; the meteors of November,

1866, alluded to by Mr. BRIERLY having their perihelion lying within 100,000,000 of miles from the sun, and their aphelion point at the enormous distance of 1,800,000,000 from the central orb—the orbits described by these bodies being at all angles to the plane of the ecliptic. The earth moving on the plane at a rate of over one thousand miles a minute, and its atmosphere coming in contact with a mass of these bodies at the time when they intersect its path, would undoubtedly ignite these interlopers and bring about their sudden combustion, more especially if their flight were in direct opposition to that pursued by the earth. But if a shower of these bodies arrive at the node at the time when our earth is due at that point, and the direction of their flight happens to be nearly the same as that of the earth, then I think the consequences would not be so disastrous. It is certain that they sweep across the plane of the ecliptic from all points of the heavens. I therefore presume that those meteors which dash into the earth's atmosphere in nearly the same direction as the earth's course—some of which being not so highly combustible—are those which reach the solid earth, unconsumed, in the form of stones, notwithstanding their increased velocity produced by the earth's attraction.

I take exception to Mr. BRIERLEY's statement about aerial collisions producing planetary or meteoric dust. These bodies, which never reach the earth in the form of stones, I submit are not worn into dust, but positively vapourized. This may be gathered from the fact of their leaving a luminous train of vapour behind them. Many other arguments might be adduced in support of the theory of meteoric stones. The elements of their composition are not in like proportion to anything found in our terrestrial rocks, either deposited or igneous. If that is so, where do they come from? HENRY NUTTER.
Burnley.

* * *

The following may be interesting in connection with this subject. It is reported in a recent number of *Nature*, and is an extract from a lecture delivered by Professor H. A. Newton, at the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College, U.S., March 9, 1874:—

Until near the close of last century poets dreamed and other men guessed about these objects, but knew nothing. Two German students, Brandes and Benzenberg, found out and told us that these bright flights were in the upper parts of the atmosphere. From the two ends of the city a track always appeared to be in the

same part of the heavens. But when one went to a village many miles away, a track was seen by the two persons in different parts of the sky. Hence they were able to measure the height of the shooting-stars from the ground. We now know that these luminous paths are rarely less than forty miles, or more than ninety miles, from the earth. We also know that any shooting-star was a small body of unknown size, perhaps not larger than a pebble or a grain of coarse sand even, undoubtedly solid, which has been travelling round the sun in its own independent orbit, like any other planet or comet. Its path came within 4,000 miles of the earth's centre, and so the small body struck into the earth's atmosphere. Its velocity was so great—fifty or a hundred times that of a cannon ball—that even in our rare upper atmosphere an intense light and heat was developed by the resistance, and the body was scattered in powder or smoke. These bodies before they come into the air, I call meteoroids. It is only when they have reached our atmosphere and begin to burn that we ever see them. They are then within ninety miles of the ground.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,218.] THE SILVER COINAGE.—What is the total value of silver coinage issued by the Government since 1870, and what amount of profit has it realized upon it? MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,219.] CRONEBANE HALFPENNY.—I have a coin with, on one side, a priest holding a crook, and round him the words "Cronebane Halfpenny." On the obverse is the figure of a woman (like Britannia), and round her the word "Hibernia." Inscribed on the edge is "Payable in Manchester, Liverpool, and Lancashire," and the date 1537. Any information respecting this coin would be acceptable to

A READER.

[4,220.] SLOOD = A CART RUT.—Is this word still in use in Lancashire or Cheshire? It occurs in an Order of Quarter Sessions made at Ormskirk in 1688, thus:—"All the King's Highways within the Hundred of Darby shall . . be put in . . repaire that they be . . smoothed from . . hollows and *sloods*, and all unevenesse." (Cheth. Soc. vol. ix., p. 175.) Wright's Provincial Dictionary gives: *Slod* v. to wade through mire; East. *Slode* s. the track of cart wheels; Lanc. *Slood* s. a deep cart rut; Chesh. H. T. C.

[4,221.] DOBCROSS CHURCH.—In looking over some old papers I came across the following lines:—

A child at Dobcross did chance to die,
Which caused its parents for to cry;
To bury it was their intent,
And they unto the sexton went.

The sexton went and tolled the bell—
Not knowing but all would be well;
But when he went up with his spade
It made owd Ben Lowton's cheek to fade.

Harrop's ambition and their pride
Wi' this could not be satisfied;
"It's now to speak, un mak an end,
That beggars shannot wi' us blend."

The little doctor then arose,
The parson poo'd him by the nose,
Saying, "If such an ape to me doth prate
I'll shake thee by thy addled pate."

In comes John Smith, more mild and free,
Says, "Gentlemen, let's all agree;
And if there is not room enough
We'n tak the meadow deawn to th' cleugh!"

The subject referred to is a burial scandal which arose in the early days of Dobcross Church, at the end of last century or very early in this, the subscribers to the "chapel" objecting to non-subscribers being buried in the churchyard—the parochial burying-ground being at Saddleworth Church. The "Owd Benny" referred to was Benjamin Lowton, of Dobcross, a subscriber of £100 to the building fund, and the John Smith was also a subscriber, I believe, to the extent of £200. Dr. Kenworthy was, I believe, "the little doctor," and the Rev. John Buckley was the parson. I should like to know further particulars, and also to have some information about the writer of the lines, one Joseph Lees, of Thurston Clough, said to be not the same Joseph Lees who wrote *Jone o' Greenfitt*.

HARROPDALÉ.

OLD MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

FAIRFIELD-STREET, MANCHESTER.

A few months ago there appeared in your columns a list of "Old Manchester Newspapers from 1719 to 1831, by 'E. P.'" I have just been looking over it, and as it is just as well for future guidance that it should be correct, permit me to point out a few errors.

The Manchester Gazette (Whitworth's) first appeared December 22nd, 1780, and not 1780, which is evidently a misprint. I would like to ask here, is there any authority besides the statement in *Collectanea* for saying that Henry Whitworth was succeeded in business by his son Robert? A note in my possession states that this Robert Whitworth was the son of John Whitworth, who died August 2, 1727, aged sixty-four, and was buried at Cross-street Chapel. This John was the successor of

Zachary Whitworth, of Smithy Door, whose name appears in the poll book of 1690. Can any of your correspondents throw any light on the subject?

The Manchester Journal began March 2, 1754, and not 1756, as corrected by your correspondent.

The Manchester Chronicle (Wheeler's) started June 23, 1781. The year is not given in the previous list. It was discontinued June 23, 1838, and revived January 5, 1839, under the title of *The Manchester Chronicle and Salford Standard* not *Salford Advertiser*, as stated. It was discontinued in 1842, and not in 1852.

The Manchester Gazette (Cowdroy's) was begun November 21, 1795, and not in March of that year.

The Mercantile Gazette and Manchester Daily Advertiser was only a Manchester paper in name, being printed by J. White, at the Hope Press, Liverpool, 1803.

The Manchester Magazine and Chronicle of the Times began January, 1815, and not in 1814.

Your correspondent says: "In 1821 the Roman Catholics started *The Catholic* (Nov. 24), but it was afterwards changed to *The Catholic Phoenix*." It was started November 28th, and was a periodical in the Protestant interest. No. 1 of *The Catholic Phoenix* or *Papal Scourge* appeared Saturday, April 13, 1822.

The last number of the *Iris* was No. 100, December 27, 1823, and not February 27 of that year.

Johnson's Selector was issued in 1824.

In the list given the following newspapers and magazines are omitted:—

1736. *The Manchester Journal*.

1738. *The Lancashire Journal*: John Berry, at the Dial, near the Cross.

1750. *The Humourist; or, Magazine of Magazines*: Owen Adams, Smithy Door.

1763. *The Lancashire Magazine; or Manchester Museum*: T. Anderton, Shakespeare's Head, near the Market Cross.

1779. *The Manchester and Liverpool Museum*: T. Jefferson, Manchester.

1804. *Argus Corrected*.

1804. *The Gleaner; or Entertainment for the Fireside*: Consisting of Tales Moral and Humorous; Histories, Narratives, Adventures. Editor, J. Watson.

1806. *The Thespian Review*: J. Aston.

1813. *The Moral and Political Censor*.

1815. *The Prompter*: M. Wilson, Barlow's Court.

1816. *The Selector*: Printed by J. Royle, for J. Leigh, Old Millgate.

1819. *Wardle's Manchester Observer*: Printed by Richard Tomlin, Dog and Partridge Entry.
1822. *The Scrap Book*: J. Pratt, opposite Chapel Walks.
1824. *Oddfellows' Magazine*.
1825. *The Manchester Advertiser*: J. E. Taylor. This was afterwards amalgamated with the *The Manchester Mercury*, and is distinct from that with the same title (Whalley's) given in the list, which was circulated on the gratuitous principle.
1825. *The Manchester Commercial Journal*: William Cowdroy.
1826. *The Manchester Repertory of Literature, Arts, and Science*: Leech and Cheetham.
1828. *The Phoenix; or Manchester Literary Journal*: Beckett and Boyes, 6, Market-street.
1829. *Jones's Literary Gazette*: W. H. Jones, 22, Market-street, opposite Pall Mall.
1830. *North of England Medical and Surgical Journal*.
1831. *The Falcon*: W. D. Varey, Red Lion-street. St. Ann's Square. Editor, John Bolton, Rogers-son.
FRED LEARY.

CHOCOLATES v. BROWNING.—The Girton girls have proved faithless to Mr. Browning. They have formally dissolved their Browning Society, and not only voted that the balance of funds in hand should be spent in chocolates, but have actually bought the chocolates, and eaten them.—*Academy*.

THE RULE OF THE OLD IN EUROPE.—M. Grévy has been re-elected President to the French Republic for a period of seven years. He is seventy-eight years old. Old men are at the helm all over Europe. Mr. Gladstone has just completed his seventy-sixth year. The Emperor William is eighty-eight, and Prince Bismarck seventy. In Russia M. de Giers is sixty-five, and in Italy Signor Depretis is seventy-four.

THE RIGHT SPELLING OF PEERS' NAMES.—Dod's *Peerage and Baronetage* points out that the proper spelling of certain family names is as follows: Argyll, not Argyle; Athole, not Atholl; Ailesbury, not Aylesbury; Anglesey, not Anglesea; Caulfeild, not Caulfield; Clonmell, not Clonmel; Feilding, not Fielding; Donegall, not Donegal; Guilford, not Guildford; Ingestre, not Ingestrie; Kingsale, not Kinsale; Lyttelton, not Littleton; Middleton (Viscount), not Middleton (Baron); Milltown (Earl), not Milton (Viscount); Fitz-William, not Fitzwilliam; Mount Cashell, not Mountcashel; Nevill (Abergavenny), not Neville; Neville (Braybrooke), not Nevill; Montagu, not Montague; Rosebery, not Roseberry; Westmorland, not Westmoreland; and Winchilsea, not tWinchelsea.

Saturday, March 20, 1886.

NOTES.

MORLEYS HALL, ASTLEY, NEAR CHATMOSS.

[4,222.] Morleys Hall, Astley, is now an old farm house (or two houses) of note in these prosaic days as a sewage farm for the adjacent town of Tyldesley: bare and very plain, almost ugly, and yet it is worth an examination by the antiquary. A large part of the present structure is a modern brick farm-house, which cannot be more than seventy years old, or thereabouts—perhaps not so much. The other part is much older in appearance, and is very interesting. Most of the outside of this older structure is of thin slob bricks, say about 200 years old; but at the easterly end there yet stands the massive old stone chimney which belongs to an older structure still; and this sets a practised eye upon looking further. Entering the old house you find that almost all the inside is "post and petrel" or "post and pan," as it is variously called. Massive oak beams framed together are found, although covered with modern whitewash and plaster, while the "panes" are filled in with "raddle and dobe." This part of the structure belongs to the same age as the old chimney—a chimney whose very ground-rent would, in St. Anne's Square, be a competency. When there, some time since, I cut a piece of the old dobe out of a wall and examined it, and found its quality the best I have ever seen. It is quite good yet, composed of a good strong clay and a sort of strong grass or small rush, which unscientific people about mosses call "bent." The oak is quite sound, and the dobe still strong and good. The old slob-bricks of the outside walls have been put in at a much later date, when the old wooden walls, being decayed by exposure to the weather, were removed and the building was—like many of our old buildings—"under-walled" and made to look new. The old stone chimney, however, escaped this desecration.

There are many legends and histories about this old place, many of which are doubtless true. A loft or closet can be seen where a priest was concealed from the fury of my people—the Protestants—(I always wish they had had something better to do than hunt priests). But without any manner of doubt this old place was a refuge for Roman Catholic

priests in the days when their religion was proscribed; for I read that an Edward Ambrose Barlow, O.S.B., from Barlow Hall (another old timbered place, I am told, near Didsbury), was apprehended at Morleys Hall. I quote from the historian:—

His last apprehension was on Easter Sunday, April 25, 1641, in the mansion of the Tyldesleys, at Morleys, where, having said mass, he was preaching to his flock, about 100 in number, on the subject of patience. The circumstances of his arrest, by the Vicar of Eccles, John Jones, D.D., marching in his white surplice, at the head of his parishioners, about 400 in number, armed with clubs and sword, is graphically related by Fr. Barlow himself. He was dragged before a Justice of the Peace, Mr. Risley [doubtless of Risley in Culcheth], who sent him guarded by sixty armed men to Lancaster Castle. Friday, Sep. 10, 1641, he was drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution at Lancaster, and there hanged and quartered.

Morleys Hall, plain as it looks, is not without its tale; and many of our old "farm-houses," as they are now called, are full of interest. Will some one who is able give a voice to these places? If they had ever belonged to the Romans, or if in any other way—by distance in space or time—they had been so far removed from us as to lend "enchantment to the view," although the result might have been of no more use than the natural history of the Land of Nod or the genealogy of Cain's wife; if the study of these old places could have been regarded as "learned research," then we should have had a rush at them. Some folks like to rake the heavens better than their own potato-beds.

WILLIAM NOBURY.

Leigh, Lancashire.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

DR WHITE'S BRIDGE.

(Nos. 4,210 and 4,215.)

[4,223.] There is a slight error in last week's notice of above with reference to the inscription on the tablet to the memory of Dr. Thomas White. Instead of "the good which he planted and reared is now in its maturity," should read "the grove which he planted." The body of Miss Beswick was interred on July 22nd, 1868 (not 1857) at Harpurhey Cemetery. She was kept on the roof of Sale Priory in her coffin, after being embalmed, until Dr. White's death, when he bequeathed her to a Dr. Ollier, of Manchester, who had an anatomical collection, and he left the same to the Manchester Natural History Museum.

A. H. MEGSON.

Sale Priory.

CRONBANE HALFPENNY.

(Query No. 4,219, March 13.)

[4,224.] A READER does not correctly describe this token coin; "a priest holding a crook" is a mitred Bishop, and "the date 1537" probably is 1787, or most likely 1789, if it has any date upon it. There are several variations of the type and indicated places of payment, and most collections of eighteenth century copper token-coins contain good specimens. These Cronbane halfpenny tokens appear to have been issued either by Camac, Kyan, and Camac (the Hibernia Mining Company), or in connection with the Associated Irish Mine Company; and some may have been issued by private traders in the then Irish mining districts.

Between 1787 and 1794 these and numerous other town and trade tokens circulated throughout the country, and particularly in industrial centres, to meet the prevailing dearth of the national copper coinage, which long had been in a most disgraceful state and utterly insufficient in quantity. The Cronebane halfpennies and those of Camac, Kyan, and Camac must have been freely coined and circulated, though not to the extent of the tokens of the celebrated Anglesey Copper Mines Company.

It is an interesting local incident that, in consequence of counterfeit copper coins being so common and good coins so scarce, a public meeting was held at Stockport, and a resolution adopted to take no halfpence in future but those of the Anglesey Company, which were of full intrinsic value. If A READER cares to see the several types of his particular coin, I shall be pleased to show them to him.

H. B.

SHOOTING STARS.

(No. 4,127 and others.)

[4,225.] Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY asks me "if I have never heard of a tallow candle being shot through a wooden board of one inch thick?" I have heard of it, and the fact is a proof in support of the argument in my letter to you on this subject. At the velocity given to the candle it is practically a hard solid, just as the earth's atmosphere is to a meteor striking it from outer space; and I say if a column of air of the same weight as the candle could be projected with sufficient velocity against an inch board, I have no doubt it would also pass through the board.

Water in a fluid state is much less solid than a

allow candle, yet it is known that by the apparatus called the Exhaust Steam Injector, steam at atmospheric pressure will give such velocity to water that it will pass across a space open to the atmosphere and enter a steam boiler against a pressure of seventy or eighty pounds per inch, and when seen passing the opening in the ordinary injector it looks like solid ice.

I said in my previous Note that the Earth's atmosphere acted as a buffer and brake upon objects striking it from outside space, and I only need to remind Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY that a few yards of earth work will arrest the largest known projectiles from the heaviest guns, and the atmosphere, at the enormous velocities at which meteors are supposed to strike it, will act in like manner to arrest their momentum.

I did not say that the meteors were annihilated. I said they were ground up and dissipated; so much so that it was a wonder that any portion of a meteor was left to arrive at the Earth's surface in a solid state.

I think Providence intends that these meteors should be constantly supplied to add some required quality to the Earth's atmosphere, either in the form of fine powder or gas. It is for scientific men to find out what purpose they subserve. If there are such meteors, then they must cause a continual addition to the bulk of the Earth.

Can any one explain why ancient remains are generally found buried? Is it from matter falling from the atmosphere, and is such matter from space outside the earth?

P. J. L.

QUERIES.

[4,226.] COBBETT'S POLITICAL REGISTER. — Can any of your readers inform me where a complete copy of Cobbett's *Political Register* can be seen and consulted? I have searched the catalogues of all the public libraries I could think of between Liverpool and Leeds inclusive, with hardly any success. Some have a few numbers, others five or six volumes, most have none at all. I know of no complete copy out of London.

J. S. T.

[4,227.] THE MANCHESTER CONDUIT.—What sort of thing was this? It appears to have stood in the "old Market Place," and was supplied with water from the spring which gave the name "Spring Gardens." It was said at the time of its existence

to have been a great ornament to the town of Manchester. At several Courts Leet it was ordered that clothes should not be washed at it, nor calves' heads dressed, nor vessels scoured there. It was locked at certain times, and the keys were kept at one time by a man named Witton. Was the water conveyed from the spring in pipes or in an open channel? What was it that was so ornamental? How could the water be prevented from flowing from the spring by locking the conduit up? It seems to have existed from 1520 till 1775, and to have been constructed by the enterprize and benevolence of a public-spirited gentleman, and to have been kept in repair from the donations of various inhabitants. If any reader is in a position to give any description of the old conduit, he would oblige some that are

PUZZLED.

EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND IN 1885.—How few are the Irishmen who emigrate to our colonies is shown by the Registrar-General's return for 1885. Of the 56,205 persons who bade farewell to Erin, no fewer than 49,655 made the United States their goal, while Australia only absorbed 3,867, Canada 2,170, and New Zealand 429. The remaining 84 went to other countries. But 3,633 found their way to England, and 2,196 to Scotland, bringing up the total Irish exodus to 62,034—a ratio of 12·0 to every 1,000 of the population. There were 13,623 fewer emigrants last year than in 1884. The farmers would seem to be doing better in Ireland, for only 1,331 emigrated, as against 1,969 and 2,914 in the two preceding years. Carpenters and joiners, servants, shopkeepers and assistants, tailors, painters, and masons are also leaving in a less proportion. The total number of emigrants—natives of Ireland—who left the Irish ports from the first of May, 1851, to the end of December, 1885, is 3,051,361—1,617,751 males and 1,433,610 females.

THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.—An extraordinary fact in connection with the Russian conscripts drafted into the ranks in 1885 is shown by some statistics just published. The total number of conscripts accepted was 847,589, of whom no fewer than 43,830 were Jews. If we take the approximate Russian population among whom the conscription is operative at fifty millions, and the Jewish population of three millions, this remarkable disproportion is abundantly apparent, and would indicate a determination on the part of the Imperial Government, through the military authorities, to check the hitherto steadily increasing monopoly of the Jews in nearly every branch of Russian industry. Jewish trade enterprise is less remarkable in the capital, where stringent and repressive bye-laws are still enforced, but in South Russia generally, and in Odessa more especially, it may safely be averred that four-fifths of the entire home and foreign trade of the province and city are in the hands of the Jews.

Saturday, March 27, 1886.

NOTES.

THE POLECAT IN SADDLEWORTH.

[4,228.] Knowing that you have some correspondents in Saddleworth (Yorks.) well acquainted with natural history, I take the liberty of asking you to let me know, through the columns of your paper, whether the real "polecat" (not the stoat, often erroneously called polecat) is still to be found in Saddleworth.

J. H. E.

[In answer to the above inquiry, we have been favoured with the following reply:—]

Yes, I occasionally, not unfrequently, hear of a polecat (*Mustela putorius*) or "foumart," as it is called hereabouts, being caught in a trap or shot by the "keepers" on the moors. A few years ago a neighbour of mine found one living in amity with a lost ferret (*M. furo*) amid some straw in the bottom of a tub in his farm-yard.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

A MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL JOURNAL FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

[4,229.] The Manchester Reference Library has become possessed of two numbers (No. 2 and 3) of *The Herald of Improvement, or Manchester as it ought to be*, which was lately brought to my notice by the kindness of the Chief Librarian. A few particulars respecting them may be interesting, especially to those who take an interest in the Ship Canal.

The Herald of Improvement appears to have been the organ of the United Service Club, established at Manchester, March 26, 1841, its objects being to "direct, concentrate, and maintain public energy towards obtaining the privilege of Inland Bonding and the Improvement of the Mersey and Irwell Navigation for sea-going vessels." Each number contains eight pages (foolscap size), and was issued monthly, the price being threepence. Underneath the title was the following question: "Will future generations believe that wealthy Manchester, at a time that she was paying one-eighth of the customs' duties of England, went to Parliament to beg for the privilege of having bonded warehouses, when she had the means within herself of demanding that privilege as a right? *Manchester as it ought to be.*"

No. 2 is dated May, 1841, and contains an article on "Inland Bonding and the *Morning Herald*," which shows that the battle between Liverpool and

Manchester evidently raged as furiously then as now. The writer, after pointing out that the customs' duties paid by Manchester district alone were upwards of three millions of the four and a half millions paid at Liverpool, or one-eighth of the whole of England, goes on to say:—

Through Manchester making Liverpool her agent to do for her what she ought to do for herself, that once "poor decayed place" has become inflated with a vast idea of her superiority over her parent town, and her press is teeming with the boast that Liverpool pays more window taxes than Manchester. If the writers were purporting to prove that Liverpool produces nothing, and that she depends not only for all her show and Corporation pomp, but mainly for her existence, upon the milk of Manchester, of which she sips the cream, the argument could not be better illustrated than by the fact of Liverpool paying more window taxes, for it shows Manchester to be one great workshop, and Liverpool the residence of non-producers who live upon its industry.

The following, extracted from the same number, may also be of interest:—

THE WAY TO MEND TIMES IN MANCHESTER.

Tune, "Rory o'More."

Behold! "men" of Manchester, now is your time!
Though Liverpool gents cry out it's a crime!
Let's deepen old Irwell that vessels may glide
From Victoria Bridge o'er the Atlantic wide.

Chorus—Five feet let us dig—and the coast let us clear
One million, at least, it will bring us a year!
Local strife let us drive to Old Nick in a flame!
Shipbuilding's our study, navigation's our game

The Liverpool gents cry out "smugglers be wary!
Whate'er you may do, touch not th' estuary!
If you do this, my boys, by the big hill of Howth,
You'll self-murder commit, for you'll stop up the mouth!"

Chorus.

Five feet let us dig—make the crooked parts straight!
From New York let the steamers bring hither their freight!
Let 'Turks bring their coffee, dates, rhubarb, and figs;
And Irishmen butter, eggs, pratees, and pigs!

Chorus.

The Dons of Oporto will bring sparkling wine,
And herdsmen from Scotland their well-fatten'd kine;
The Lascars and Tartars will bring pure Howgua,
With Lapsang, and Souchong, Congou, and Twankey.

Chorus.

Let the boats bring their codfish, fluke, haddock, and sole,
And even fat salmon with manorial toll!
To dock and to bond we must have working men,
And thousands employment are certain to gain!

Chorus.

No. 3 contains "Mr. Clay's plans for the Improvement of the Irwell and Mersey Navigation shown in section."

The Journal was "printed and published by Wilmot Henry Jones, Barlow's Court, Market-street, Manchester."

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ANCIENT REMAINS.

(No. 4,225, March 20.)

[4,230.] Your correspondent "P. J. L." asks for an explanation of the fact that ancient remains are generally found buried. He will find one in Darwin's *Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms*, chapter iv.

J. A. JENKINSON.

Bury New Road.

COBBETT'S REGISTER.

(Query No. 4,226, March 20.)

[4,231.] The recently-established public library at Reading contains vols. 1 to 88 (1802-1838) of Cobbett's *Political Register*, as well as vols. 1 to 8 (1783-1801) of Cobbett's *Porcupine*.

W. T. F.

I have Cobbett's *Political Register* dating from 1816 up to 1829. "J. S. T." can see it at 11, Todd-street, if he wishes.

J. LAVENDER.

THE MANCHESTER CONDUIT.

(Query No. 4,227, March 20.)

[4,232.] I am not aware that there is any architectural description of this conduit in existence, but in the *History and Description of the Manchester Waterworks*, by J. F. La Trobe Bateman, F.R.S., which work can be consulted at our Free Library, there is a lengthy reference to it. It was supplied from a spring at the top of King-street, near Fountain-street, the water being conveyed in pipes down Market-street. The conduit was erected at the cost of one Isabel Beck, who also provided a sum of money for its maintenance. It existed from 1506 to 1776. It had several supply pipes, and in later times was surrounded by iron palisades. These details differ in some respects from those given by PUZZLED.

W. BLACKSTOCK.

THE PLACE-NAME BACUP.

(Nos. 4,198 and 4,206.)

[4,233.] Dr. MARCH's last contribution to the *City News* does not, in my opinion, improve his position as regards the explanation of "Baec-copp." His original ground, *East Lancashire Nomenclature*, p. 18, is sufficiently clear and positive, being this:—"The word Bacup is the A.S. Baec-copp, and indicates a place beneath or behind a cop. It is equivalent to

the common name Underhill." To substantiate this we demand evidence (1) that baec means beneath; and (2) that beneath and behind are convertible terms. His reply on this point is altogether foreign to it, being references to sources where baec is employed generally as a name, as, for instance, in Orosius, where baec-bord is used to denote a port (French babor) or harbour merely.

To be clear myself, I repudiate the four pointed statements which Mr. March attributes to me. I did not speak of Coupe as meaning "nothing in particular," which the doctor says I did, while modifying the statement with the indefinite article, as if coups were as common as haystacks. I think Coupe has a very decided meaning, though it does not frequently occur in this form. The same word appears as Cowm, which topographically describes a hollow part of the same hill, and is within a couple of miles of Coupe. There is also Back Cowm, which bears the same relation geographically to Cowm as Bacup does to Coupe. Both forms, I apprehend, are dialectal expressions of the same word, and vary only, like hundreds besides, in consequence of the action of that glottal capacity which was held in reserve for the formation of linguistic changes in an age when the people were experiencing a rapid transition from the inflexional to the analytical form of common speech.

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

QUERIES.

[4,234.] ABBEY IN GREENHEYS.—Information is desired about an abbey, the ruins of which stand between Gore-street and Abbey-street (now Denmark Road), Greenheys.

S. T.

[4,235.] MRS. MOWATT, THE ACTRESS.—Can any reader furnish me with the career of Mrs. Mowatt, the actress, in Manchester. Her first appearance in England took place, I believe, on the Manchester Theatre Royal stage?

A. B. C.

[4,236.] THE IRISH IN FRANCE.—Can any reader give the names of any books in our local libraries containing information relative to the number and position of the Irish people or their descendants in France? I see from the papers that they kept up their national holiday in Paris on St. Patrick's Day, and as an Englishman I am pleased to see that their speeches were free from any taint of ill-feeling against us. They seem to prosper and do well.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

[4,237.] THE SCHOFIELDS OF STAKEHILL.—Can any reader give me any information about a family of Schofields who were yeomen in the sixteenth century, and lived at a house called Stakehill, in the parish of Middleton? Canon Raines says:—"The Schofields of Stakehill (the house is now a good yeoman's house belonging to the Buckleys) often occur in the Middleton parish books. They seem to have been wealthy yeomen." Richard Scolfield of Stakehill, in Lancashire, is mentioned as drawing up a marriage covenant between his son and heir, Robert Scolfield, and Janet, daughter of George Bamford; and at the same time between Margaret Scolfield, his daughter, and the son and heir of the same George Bamford. The covenant is dated 8 May, 10 Henry VIII., 1518. (Vol. 42, p. 116, Chetham Society Publications.) Any further information about this family and their descendants will be acceptable.

S. H. D. T.

OLD MANCHESTER NEWSPAPERS.

KING-STREET, MANCHESTER.

In addition to the errors and omissions pointed out by Mr. Leary, the following should be noted:—

The date of the first issue of Roger Adams's *Manchester Weekly Journal* is not given. Although no copy of the first number appears to be in existence, Mr. Harland and others fix the 1st of January, 1719, as the date of issue. They also state that it was discontinued in 1726 (not 1725).

Is E. P. correct in describing Charles Wheeler's son and successor in connection with the *Manchester Chronicle* as James Wheeler? Should it not be John Wheeler, the eldest son, who retired independent at an early age?

The Wednesday edition of the *Manchester Guardian* was started, not in 1826, but on the 15th September, 1836, when, in consequence of the reduction of the stamp duty from fourpence to one penny, the price of the paper was reduced from sevenpence to fourpence.

G. H. H.

MANCHESTER, March 22.

Mr. F. Leary, in your last issue, undertakes to correct some few errors in my articles contributed to your paper of Nov. 21st and the week but one following. That errors crept into the articles I am aware, but some of those ascribed to me by Mr. Leary were warrantable, or at least excusable. The date 1780 was given as the year in which the *Manchester*

Gazette was published, and this was, as Mr. Leary conjectures, a misprint. In the first article another misprint, also pointed out, appeared. The *Manchester Journal* was then stated to have started in 1784. The real date was 1754, and I put that date in the correction in the second article, but the printers put it 1756. Hence its appearance. I thank Mr. Leary for correcting my omission of the date of the publication of *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*. It is a great pity that Mr. Leary did not quote his authority for the next correction. He writes that the *Manchester Gazette* (i.e., Cowdroy's) was begun November 21, 1795, and not March as I stated in my first article. Now my authority for that statement was Timperley's *Dictionary of Printers and Printing*, published in 1839, and there March is given as the date, not November. The same month is given in Timperley's *Annals of Manchester* (ed. 1839), and this statement remained unchallenged and uncorrected in subsequent editions, notably in that edited by F. Wilde in 1862, and in the *Manchester Historical Recorder* (1874), revised and corrected, published by J. Heywood. If Mr. Leary can produce more trustworthy evidence in favour of his correction, as for instance a copy of the paper, it would be well. The last authorities quoted state that the *Manchester Magazine* was published in 1814, the year I said, and the *Iris* ceased on the date I gave, but of this last fact there is a doubt. I have not had an opportunity to inspect the one in the Free Library. If Mr. Leary will look at my articles again, he will see that I gave the date of the publication of *Johnson's Selector*. I wrote concerning the *Iris* that it ceased in 1823, and then I went on "The next year two unimportant papers, or more properly speaking magazines, were published. The first was *Johnson's Selector*." Where was the need of correction by Mr. Leary? I thank Mr. Leary for the list of other magazines and newspapers. If he corrects in future, however, I hope he will give authorities.

E. P.

THE RECENT COLD WEATHER. — February was exceptionally cold, but the first ten days of March were colder. In London there was frost every night between February 19 and March 11. Even in the far north, at Shetland, where a continued frost is one of the rarest occurrences, there has been frost every night since February 22. Between March 1 and 11, fifty degrees was only once recorded at any station in England—namely at Scilly. Even in 1883, when March was the coldest March but two in this century, the thermometer once marked fifty-two degrees in London on the 5th; but in this most exceptional year it never rose higher than forty-three degrees between those dates. It is this continued low temperature, and absence of anything like spring-like mildness, that was the really noteworthy feature of the recent cold period. There have been instances within recent years of severe frosts, with even lower temperatures than any registered during the frost, but there were at least some breaks in the severity of the storm; this season there were none.

Saturday, April 3, 1886.

NOTES.

COLLYHURST.

[4,238.] The publication of the Court Leet Records throws some light on a bit of local history which should not pass unnoticed in these columns.

Collyhurst was situated one mile from the town of Manchester, and was a common, eighty acres in extent. The inhabitants of the town had free pasturage here for cattle and swine, by paying one penny per head quarterly to an officer whose duty it was to look after them. In 1554 the swine, wandering about the town and straying into the Market Place and Churchyard, had become so annoying that the owners were ordered either to keep them secure in proper places or to send them to Collyhurst, under a fine of five shillings. The right to use this common was claimed exclusively by the inhabitants of Manchester, and had been enjoyed by them time out of mind. Sir Nicholas Mosley, Kt., and afterwards his son, Rowland Mosley, Esq., who were successively lords of the Manor, endeavoured to enclose this common, but were opposed by William Radcliffe and others on behalf of the burgesses and freeholders of Manchester. Eventually, in 1616-17, an arrangement was come to and authority given the lord of the Manor to enclose it, leaving sufficient ways and passages over the same, with the exception of six acres lying nearest the town, in consideration of payment by him of ten pounds per annum to the poor of the town for ever. This sum was regularly paid until the manorial rights were disposed of to the Corporation, and was known as Collyhurst Charity. The six acres were reserved for the use of the inhabitants on which to erect cabins in case an infection of the plague should happen, for the relief and harbouring of infected persons, and for burying such as should die of the plague. An item in the *Manchester Historical Recorder* fully explains why it was necessary to set this land apart for this purpose :--

1604-6.—An epidemic like the plague carries off nearly 2,000 persons. A plot of ground in Collyhurst to bury the dead given by Rowland Mosley, Esq.

When the new road from Manchester to Middleton was being cut, the excavators came across the remains of the persons who had been buried here.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

A MANCHESTER CHARACTER.

[4,239.] In looking over some old family letters I met with one dated "Manchester, 20 January, 1827." I append an extract from it, in the hope that it may interest your readers, and I shall be glad if any of them can supply me with some further particulars about the eccentric individual therein referred to. I imagine such an extraordinary character must have been well known in the town at the time. The Mr. Mottram alluded to in the letter was the banker of that name, and the gentleman who was such an ardent devotee of mechanical music as to purchase the two barrel-organs belonging to the deceased was Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. Mottram's successor. Both gentlemen are referred to in Mr. Leo H. Grindon's *Manchester Banks and Bankers*. The writer of the letter was at that time in Mr. Evans's Bank, and it appears highly probable, from the identity of name and other circumstances, that some relationship existed between the banker and the miser.

R. L.

Manchester, January 20, 1827.

"Who do you think is dead? No less a personage than poor old Richard Evans! You knew him. You recollect the box-organ in Lombard-street. He died the same as he lived, in and amongst all his rubbish and crockery. There is a pretty dust kicked up now in all his old holes and corners. He little knows what is going forwards as he lies cold enough in St. John's Churchyard. He died on Wednesday last, and was buried on Sunday. . . . He had been living in Brown-street until a few weeks previous to his dissolution, and the immediate cause of death was, no doubt, change of diet, combined with want of proper nourishment and warm quarters, as it appears he denied himself all these requisites at home, though he had the means of procuring them. In a word, there appears to be no doubt that he was starved to death. I went there when they took him away, and I thought he looked cleaner and better than when he was alive. We had a rare rummage, as you may imagine, amongst his 'traps,' and such a place for dust and dirt I scarcely ever saw—at least for a dwelling-house. He was found dead in one corner of his front room, between the window and the organ (if you remember where it stood), on a dirty old bed upon the floor, with scarcely sufficient covering to keep the most hardy person from the bad effects of the weather. His night-cap was composed of rags stitched together, which seemed to vie with the pillow and other articles for filth; notwithstanding his drawers and boxes were well stocked with clean linen, woollen cloth not cut up, and wearing apparel of all descriptions; and coats, waistcoats, and trousers without end—queer shapes and makes some of them, you may be sure. On a table near him was his watch

and chain, all gold, handsome and valuable, together with a handsome gold chain which he wore round his neck as a watch-guard. The last article cost him not very long ago twenty guineas! Under his dirty pillow was found a box of jewels which he always carried about with him, and which contained a number of valuable articles of modern make; and in the bowels of his large organ was discovered another box containing a quantity of the like articles, but of more ancient make. Very little ready money was found—perhaps about twenty pounds in gold. There were lots of crockery ware of various description, both ancient and modern. To give you some idea of the extent of his stock in this line, I myself counted about forty tea and coffee-pots!"

THE PASTON LETTERS: A LOVE STORY OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

[4,240.] The report in your last issue of Dr. Jessopp's lecture on Letters and Letter-writers mentions his allusion to what are, by a printer's error, called the "Pastoral," but which really was to the Paston Letters, as an incomparable collection of more than 1,000 letters upon social and domestic affairs, between members of a family of distinction living in the fifteenth century. A knowledge of the literary character of your valuable paper leads me to think that perhaps a brief account of these letters would be of interest to some of your readers.

They derive their name from the fact that they are mostly addressed to various members of a family named Paston which had been settled in Norfolk for many years, and, in its later descendants, was ennobled under the title of Earls of Yarmouth, and they extend over the reigns of Henry VI., Edward IV. and V., and Richard III., into that of Henry VII. They principally concern the family when it was represented by John Paston, Esq., son of William Paston, Lord Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; his son, Sir John Paston, and John Paston, brother of Sir John just mentioned. It includes also letters from Hugh Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, and his Duchess, from the ill-fated Lord Hastings, from the first Howard, Duke of Norfolk (Shakspeare's "Jockey of Norfolk"), and many other historic names. They were first published about 100 years ago, and Horace Walpole, writing of them at the time says, "The letters of Henry Sixth's reign have come out, and to me make all other letters not worth reading." At the death of the last Earl of Yarmouth, the originals fell into the hands of P. C. Neve, Esq., Norroy King-at-Arms, who died in 1729; his widow married a Mr. Martin, of Palgrave, Suffolk, at whose death, in 1771,

they were sold to Mr. Worth, apothecary, of Diss, Norfolk, and at the death of this holder they passed into the possession of Mr., afterwards Sir John Fenn, by whom they were published. They may well be called incomparable, for they embrace letters on all kinds of subjects, and extend over a space of time nearly reaching to a century.

There is a series of these letters, which contains a little happy love story of that old time, strangely mingled as was the custom of those days with hard bargaining, which I think might interest your readers. I have collected the letters referring to it from distant parts of the correspondence, and have modernized the spelling and explained obsolete words, so as to render it acceptable to modern readers. It concerns the courtship and marriage of John Paston, the younger, to Margery, daughter of Sir John Brews, of Stinton Hall, in Salle, and Topcroft in Norfolk.

It opens with a letter from the mother of the young lady, written between the 8th and 14th of February, 1476-7. [In the old style the number of the old year was retained until the 25th March in the one following.] It seems clear that Dame Elizabeth Brews had visited the Pastons at Norwich, where they had a town house, and that the question of marriage had been mooted, but that things had not run quite smoothly.

To my worshipful cousin John Paston, be this bill delivered.

Cousin,—I recommend me unto you, thanking you heartily for the great cheer ye made me and all my folks, the last time I was at Norwich, and ye promised me that ye would never break the matter to Margery, until such time as ye and I were at point. But ye have made her such an advocate for you, that I may never have rest, night nor day, for calling and crying upon, to bring the said matter to effect. And cousin, upon Friday it is Saint Valentine's day, and every bird chooseth him a mate, and if it like you to come on Thursday, at night, and so purvey you that ye may abide there till; Monday, I trust to God that ye shall so speak to mine husband, and I shall pray that we shall bring the matter to a conclusion. For cousin, "it is but a simple oak that is cut down at the first stroke;" for ye shall be reasonable, I trust to God, which have you ever in his merciful keeping.

By your Cousin, DAME ELIZABETH BREWS,
(otherwise shall be called by God's grace).

Note the naive aspiration with which she concludes. But matters were not to be so easily settled, though it is evident from the next letter, which is from the young lady herself, that he had made some advance, at any rate so far as to be her valentine. This letter must have been written very shortly after John

Paston's return, and young ladies would do well to remark the respectful manner of her address, a point upon which the lapse of 400 years has made a great change.

Unto my right well-beloved Valentine, John Paston, Esq., be this bill delivered.

Right reverend and worshipful and my right well-beloved Valentine, I recommend me unto you full heartily, desiring to hear of your welfare, which I beseech Almighty God long for to preserve, unto His pleasure, and your heart's desire. And if it please you to hear of my welfare, I am not in good heele [*i.e.* health] of body, nor of heart, nor shall be till I hear from you; for there wottys [*i.e.* knows] no creature what pain that I endure, and for to be dead, I dare it not discover. And my lady, my mother, hath laboured the matter to my father full diligently, but she can no more get than ye know of, for the which, God knoweth, I am full sorry. But if that ye love me, as I trust verily that ye do, ye will not leave me therefor; for if ye had not half the livelihood [*i.e.* estate] that ye have, for to do the greatest labour, that any woman alive might, I would not forsake you. [That is, that she would not forsake him, though she had to do the greatest labour that any woman alive could.] And if ye command me to keep me true wherever I go, I wis I will do all my might you to love and never no more [*i.e.*, never any other.] And if my friends say that I do amiss, they shall not me let [*i.e.*, hinder] so for to do. Mine heart me bids ever more to love you truly, above all earthly thing, and [*i.e.*, though] they be never so wroth, I trust it shall better in time coming. No more to you at this time, but the Holy Trinity have you in keeping; I beseech you that this bill be not seen of none earthly creature save only yourself. And this letter was endited at Topcroft with full heavy heart by your own

MARGERY BREWS.

I have occupied your space quite sufficiently for one week, but if you and your readers are willing, I will continue the history of this old-world courtship in your next.

W. H. BARLOW, M.D.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COBBETT'S REGISTER.

(Nos. 4,226 and 4,231.)

[4,241.] If "J. S. T." will call at 61, Brown-street, I may be able to give him some information as to Cobbett's *Political Register*.

RICHARD COBBETT.

THE POLECAT IN SADDLEWORTH.

;(Note No. 4,228, March 27.)

[4,242.] The Stoat, the Foulmart, and the Weasel are all to be found in Saddleworth, as well as a still more formidable and fiercer animal, the Martin Cat. I had a specimen sent me many years ago from Greenfield rocks in Saddleworth, which from head to the tip of its tail was two feet ten inches.

C. C.

THE PLACE-NAME BACUP.

(Nos. 4,233 and others.)

[4,243.] I hope no one will believe Mr. CUNLIFFE when he says that "in Orosius bæcbord is used to denote a port or harbour merely." Mr. CUNLIFFE has not read Orosius, or he would know that the story runs: "Lét him that wéste land on thot steórbord, and thá wísdá on that bæcbord." Starboard is that side of the ship on the which the steersman stood, the right-hand side; and larboard, formerly bæcbord, is the left or port side. Sailors speak of putting the helm up or down.

Mr. CUNLIFFE has looked into a dictionary and has made a funny mistake. He finds the old German "backbord" glossed by French "bâbord," and this by English *n.m.* larboard; *adv.* a port. And the word "aport" he takes to mean a harbour. And then he writes, in his fine manner, "In Orosius, where bæcbord is used to denote a port (French babor [*sic*]) or harbour merely."

H. C. MARCH.

Rochdale.

THE ABBEY IN GREENHEYS.

(Query No. 4,234, March 27.)

[4,244.] The so-called Abbey in Greenheys is merely an ornamental edifice erected by Mr. Kaye in his garden. He was a well-known cabinet maker and upholsterer, whose shop was first at the upper end of Market-street, and afterwards removed to Fountain-street. About sixty years since he bought the plot of land on each side of the Cornbrook, usually called the "black brook," and began to build good dwelling-houses upon it, each with a garden which he planted well with trees and shrubs. Between 1826 and 1840 he had built fourteen good houses, which were eagerly sought after and commanded high rents. One larger than the rest was castellated and imposing, with a tolerably large garden with a small lake and a bridge across it, and a grassy glade on the side of which a few steps brought the spectator to the ruins. These had been gathered from churches around that had been "restored." The window so visible now was said to be brought from St. John's; and some parts came from the Cathedral, then as usual under repair. There was less respect then than now for what was old, and if a window or a pillar was somewhat decayed it was replaced with new and the old put aside as useless.

P.

THE IRISH IN FRANCE.

(Query No. 4,236, March 27.)

[4,245.] As far as I am aware no author appears to have made a special study of the fate and fortunes

of such of my countrymen as have at various periods settled in France. However, the following works will afford your correspondent plenty of incidental, and at the same time highly interesting, information on the subject:—

Dalton's *Illustrations of King James's Irish Army List* (1689). Second edition. London, 1861.

O'Connor's *Military Memoirs of the Irish Nation*. Dublin, 1845.

O'Callaghan's *History of the Irish Brigades in the French Service*. Glasgow, 1885.

Reminiscences of an Exiled Milesian. London (Bentley), 1853.

Of course the great majority of Frenchmen bearing Irish family-names are the descendants of religious and political refugees, notably of the soldiers and chiefs of the famous Irish Brigade, to whom a certain English author of the last century refers as "those unfortunate gentlemen who, by the loss of plentiful fortunes at home, had nothing left to them but their swords to procure a scanty and painful maintenance abroad." The merciless rigour of the infamous penal laws, which made helots of the Catholics of Ireland, drove many Irish merchants beyond the seas, and their descendants are still to be found in almost every large town in France, especially in the great seaports of the east and south. Paris itself contains an influential Irish and Franco-Irish Society, many of whose members occupy high positions in the army, the navy, and the law-courts, whilst others have made their mark in literature, science, and art. To his credit be it spoken, love of the land from which his forefathers sprung has ever been a distinguishing trait of the Franco-Irishman, who seems never to have lost touch with his kinsmen over the wave.

LEONARD D. ARDILL.

Aytoun-street, Manchester.

MRS. MOWATT, THE ACTRESS.

(Query No. 4,235, March 27).

[4,246.] Anna Cora Mowatt, the actress, was a daughter of an episcopal minister of New York, by name Ogden. It was Miss Kemble in the *Hunchback* who inspired the young girl of thirteen with a desire to go on the stage. At the age of fifteen she was married secretly to Mr. James Mowatt, a barrister, of New York. In her native city Mrs. Mowatt made her débüt as Pauline in the *Lady of Lyons*. Her first appearance in England was at the Manchester Theatre Royal, where she appeared as Pauline, Juliet, Lady Teazle, and other heroines of legitimate drama. Her autobiography, published by Ticknor

and Co., of Boston, U.S., in 1854, is an interesting account of her eight years' experience of the stage, and contains some amusing anecdotes which have not been hackneyed. One anecdote is worth repeating; it has been spared by the relentless hands of the guinea-prize editors. When visiting Germany with her aunt, who was entirely ignorant of the language, Mrs. Mowatt heard her calling from the kitchen where she was, by a series of pantomimic actions, endeavouring to give some instructions:—

"Good gracious, Anna, what is the German for a plate?"

"Teller," replied Anna, calling over the stairs.

"Tell her what?" returned her aunt.

"Teller," she called back at the top of her voice.

"How can I tell her, unless you tell me what to tell her?" the aunt retorted.

"Can't you hear me tell you to tell her *teller*?"

"That's just what I want to do; but how can I tell her, unless I know what to tell her?"

Mrs. Mowatt laughed heartily at her aunt's blunder, and put all things right by going down herself and giving the necessary instructions.

I have no note of the date of Mrs. Mowatt's appearance in Manchester, but I remember that in her autobiography she alludes to her engagement at the Theatre Royal here merely as a preliminary canter previous to her London run. I refer "A. B. C." for particulars and dates to the *Autobiography of an Actress*, which will prove interesting to the general reader.

F. M. H.

Manchester.

* * *

Mrs. Mowatt made her first appearance on the English stage at the Manchester Theatre Royal, December 7, 1847, as Pauline in the *Lady of Lyons*. Supported by that fine actor Mr. E. L. Davenport, she played a round of characters, including Beatrice in *Much ado about Nothing*. Mrs. Mowatt was also an accomplished authoress. In January, 1850, her comedy of *Fashion, or Life in New York*, was produced at the Olympic. Her portrait is given in Tallis's Shakspeare. She retired in 1854.

RADNOR.

QUERIES.

[4,247.] THE SPARROW.—To what age can a sparrow live? ONE INTERESTED.

[4,248.] HIGHEST PART OF MANCHESTER.—What part of the city of Manchester, within a radius of one mile from the Exchange, is considered to be the highest, i.e., on the road or footway? S. W. T.

Saturday, April 10, 1886.

NOTES.

THE PASTON LETTERS: A LOVE STORY OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

II.

[4,249.] The reply of John Paston to this loving and modest epistle has not come down to us; but if we may judge from the tone of the next in the series, which is also from the young lady, and evidently in reply to him, it was not as warm and sympathetic as she deserved.

To my right well-beloved Cousin, John Paston, Esquire, be this letter delivered.

Right Worshipful and well-beloved Valentine, In my most humble wise, I recommend me unto you, &c., and heartily I thank you for the Letter which that ye sent me by John Bickerton, whereby I understand and know that ye be purposed to come to Topcroft, in short time, without any errand or matter, but only to have a conclusion of the matter betwixt my Father and you. I would be most glad of any creature alive so that the matter might grow to effect, and thereas [i.e., whereas] ye say, and [i.e., if] ye come, and find the matter no more towards you than ye did aforetime, ye would no more put my Father, and my Lady, my Mother, to no cost nor business for that cause; a good while after, [i.e. unless the matter, were more favourably received by her father, he would let it drop for a good while] which causeth my heart to be full heavy; And [i.e. but] if that ye come, and the matter take to none effect, then should I be much more sorry and full of heaviness. And as for myself, I have done, and understand in the matter, that [i.e. all that] I can or may, God knoweth; and I let you plainly understand that my father, will no more money part withal, in that behalf, but an £100 and 50 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) which is right far from the accomplishment of your desire. Wherefore, if ye could be content with that Good, and my poor person, I would be the merriest maiden on ground [i.e. on earth.] And if ye think not yourself so satisfied, or that ye might have much more Good, as I have understood by you afore; [then] good, true and loving Valentine, that ye take no such labour upon you, as to come more for that matter, but let (what) is pass, and never more to be spoken of. As I may be your true Lover and Bedewoman during my life. No more unto you at this time, but Almighty Jesu preserve you both body and soul. By your Valentine,

MARGERY BREWS.

Topcroft, Feby. or early in March, 1476-7.

The mark in the original, which is rendered &c. in these letters, is rather of the nature of a flourish, marking the end of a clause or sentence. There is a straightforward dignity and common-sense about this letter which speaks well for the gentle Margery, and gives a promise, which seems to have been well

borne out by her life. One feels somewhat ashamed of John and his chaffering, but he turned out a good fellow after all, though we may shrewdly suspect that some of his future prosperity and good fortune was due to the counsel and good sense of his wife.

Next in order comes a letter from one evidently in a position of some trust under Sir Thomas Brews, whom John Paston had found means to attach to his interests. He writes about the same time, or very shortly after, the letter last given.

Unto my right worshipful Master John Paston Esquire be this Bill delivered.

Right Worshipful Sir, I recommend me unto you, letting you know, as for the young Gentlewoman, she oweth you her good heart and love; as I know by the communication, that I have had with her, for the same. And, Sir, ye know what my Master and my Lady, have proffered with her 200 marks [£133. 6s. 8d.], and I dare say, that her Chamber and arrayment, shall be worth 100 marks [£66. 13s. 4d.], and I heard my Lady say, that and [i.e. if] the case required, both ye and she, should have your board with my Lady, three years after. And I understand my Lady, that she would, that ye should labour the matter to my master, for it should be better. And I heard my Lady say, that it was a feeble oak, that was cut down at the first stroke. And ye be beholden to my Lady, for her good word, for she hath never praised you too much [i.e. she hath never done praising you]. Sir like as I promised you, I am your good man, and my goodwill, ye shall have in word and deed. And Jesu have you in His merciful keeping. By your man.

THOMAS KELL.

February or March, 1476-7 (sixteenth year of Edward IV.)

The next in order comes a letter from John Paston to his mother, written from Topcroft, where he had evidently made another visit and attempt to move the stubborn purse-strings of the rigid Sir Thomas Brews. In this he is at considerable pains to persuade her to go to Norwich to meet Dame Elizabeth Brews, and he explains to her why the place of meeting had been changed from Langley, where it had been appointed to take place, and he shows some filial anxiety for her welfare, and tells her to wrap herself up well, for it is "the most perilous March that ever was seen by any man's day's now living," which teaches us that our English spring still maintains its ancient character. Next comes a letter from the stern parent himself, in which we see the other side of the case, and find that even he is not altogether as black as he appeared from the point of view of the youngsters. He writes to Sir John Paston, the elder brother of the John with whom we are chiefly concerned, and who was at this time in Calais forming one of the English garrison, and

shows himself a tender-loving father, only anxious not to injure the future of his other daughters, Margery's sisters, and he urges that Sir John should do something to help the young couple. It is to be remembered that the term Cousin was used for very remote degrees of relationship, and there may have been some former intermarriage between branches of the families.

To my Worshipful Cousin, Sir John Paston, knight,
be this Letter delivered.

Right Worshipful and my heartily well-beloved Cousin, I recommend me unto you, desiring to hear of your welfare, which I pray God may be as continually good as I would have mine own, and Cousin, the cause of my writing unto you at this time is, I feel well, by my Cousin John Paston, your brother, that ye have understanding of a matter, which is in communication, touching a marriage by God's Grace to be concluded, betwixt my said Cousin, your brother, and my daughter Margery; which is far communed and not yet concluded, nor neither shall nor may be, till I have answer from you again of your goodwill and assent, to the said matter; and also of the obligation, which I send you herewith. For Cousin, I should be sorry to see, either, my Cousin, your brother, or my daughter, driven to so mean a life, as they should do, if the six-score pounds should be paid, of their marriage money. And Cousin, I have taken myself so near, in leaving [i.e., parting] of this said six-score pounds, that whereas I had laid up an £100 for the marriage of a younger daughter of mine, I have now lent the said £100 and £20 over that, to my Cousin your brother, to be paid again, by such easy days, as the obligation, which I send you specifies. And, Cousin, I were right loth to bestow, so much upon one daughter, that the other, her sisters, should fare the worse; wherefore Cousin, if ye will that this matter, should take effect, under such form as my Cousin, your brother, hath written unto you, I pray you put thereto, your goodwill and some of your cost, as I have done of mine, more largely than ever I purpose to do, to any two of her sisters, as God knoweth mine intent, whom I beseech to send you, your levest [i.e., dearest] heart's desire. By your Cousin,

THOMAS BREWS, Knight.

Written at Topcroft, Saturday, March 8, 1478-7.

I have written enough for this week, and I hope in my next to finish this episode of old English social life. Meantime I congratulate you upon the correctness of the proof, the only error in which is to be attributed, in all probability, to the fault of my handwriting. It is in the name of the Norroy King at Arms, which Sir John Fenn prints le Neve, with a small letter instead of a capital to the article, and which your compositor has mistaken for C.

WILLIAM H. BARLOW, M.D.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

MRS. MOWATT, THE ACTRESS.

(Nos. 4,235 and 4,246.)

[4,250.] Besides being an accomplished actress, Anna Cora Mowatt was a good woman, who strove with all her might to repair the broken fortunes of her invalid husband. With free, frank, and pleasant manners, she had a soul cast in a heroic mould. She belonged to the New Church Society (Swedenborgians), and the Rev. Mr. S., named in her autobiography, was the late Mr. Smithson, the pastor of the Peter-street Church in Manchester. I think, but am not certain, that her first appearance on the stage was in Boston, U.S.A. Previous to this she gave readings, after the style of the elder Vandenhoff. When she came out in Boston her New Church friends, many of whom were among the leading people of the city, and were not as a rule theatre goers, rallied round her. In those days, not only in Boston but in many other American cities, the auditorium of a theatre was divided into the pit, only frequented by men; the first and second tier of boxes, the only place where a respectable woman would go; the third tier, set apart for the immoral women and their admirers; and the gallery, for "niggers." As Mrs. Mowatt was going to attract the culture and virtue of the city, she demanded of the manager, "Old Pelby," that during her engagement the third tier should be closed; and this stipulation was in all her after engagements. The effect was to do away with this objectionable feature in a theatre, for the managers found that it paid better to cater to virtue than to vice. In another matter her example only excited a nine days' wonder. She was in either Cincinnati or Louisville, I have forgotten which, when the body of Henry Clay, the best beloved by his followers of all American statesmen, was carried home in state from Washington. As usual on such occasions, the city from end to end was smothered in dreadful black, save Mrs. Mowatt's windows at the hotel where she was staying. These were draped in pure white, suggestive of immortality and Paradise—not death and "the other place." While the theatre could take a lesson from a good woman, custom was too strong for those who might have been her imitators in honouring their beloved dead.

P. S.

* * *

In addition to the engagement in which Mrs. Mowatt made her début in England in December,

1847, Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt appeared at our Theatre Royal, "for a limited number of nights," prior to her embarkation for home, beginning May 12, 1851. During her first engagement she played Beatrice, The Countess in Sheridan Knowles's play of *Love, Rosalind*, Mrs. Haller, Juliana in the *Hunchback*, Baccan in Milman's *Fazio*, and Mariana in Knowles's *Wife*. During the second visit she added to her previous repertoire Constance in *The Love Chase*, Portia, Ariadne, Mrs. Ormsby Dalmaine, Ion, and Blanche in her own play *Armand*, and was supported by T. Swinbourne, II. Beverley, W. H. Stephens, John Wood, Mrs. Bickerstaff, and Mrs. Horsman.

Mrs. Mowatt, though she neither set the Irwell nor the Thames on fire, showed herself to be endowed with considerable intellect, the exercise of which she had clearly fostered in the departments of dramatic equally with that of general literature. Nature had been very bountiful in her tribute; beautiful in person, fair in complexion, and hair as golden as Heine's Loreley-maiden, voice of silvery sweetness, united with an easy carriage, which at once attested to the refinement of her mind; Mrs. Mowatt possessed all these in abundance, but she unfortunately allowed a consciousness of these powerful adjuncts to mar her otherwise charming personations; and on her last visit the local critics detected (or professed they did) a marked deterioration, for during her sojourn in London they thought she had become grandiose and stilted, with a habit of indulging in abrupt transitions and sudden violence of speech—in a word, that she ranted. Having in 1851, only just passed the first decade of my mundane career, it can scarcely be supposed that my judgment had arrived at anything like maturity, and it is more than probable that my opinion of her powers had been fashioned by the views of my father, who, as is well known, supplied the critiques of those days to a leading local journal. Anyhow, I came to the conclusion that Mrs. Mowatt, though a winning and graceful Rosalind, had not mastered the indispensable achievement of throwing herself unreservedly into her part; and I contrasted her with Helen Faucit,—who had, a few months before, entranced my youthful imagination, and to use a favourite expression of my boyish days, the former "wasn't in it." Mrs. Mowatt's best part was Blanche, in which she appeared more natural and less amateurish—easily accounted for by the fact that she was herself the authoress of the lines.

Mrs. Mowatt, or rather Mrs. Ritchie, for on the death of her first husband she soon solaced herself with the acquisition of a second, was a woman of much force of character, and her literary productions, prolific as they are, are all very readable, even from their eccentricity. Besides her *Autobiography* she wrote a book of her adventures entitled *Mimic Life*, distinctly of the biographical category. The following anecdote will serve as a trait of her strongly marked individuality. In her religious views she she held to the Swedenborgian doctrines. Amongst this sect ostentatious displays of mourning are discountenanced. It happened during her engagement at the Olympic in London that general mourning was ordained for Queen Adelaide. The determined little woman declined to sacrifice the principles so dear to her, and refused to appear on the stage in black, and to the astonishment of all, stood forth in white crape devoid of ornaments.

The critic of the *Manchester Examiner*, in speaking of her, said: "There runs through everything she does a picturesque fancy, displaying a taste for the beautiful, even where a gift of creating it has been withheld." It always struck me that these remarks pointed to a true appreciation of the capabilities if not of a talented, at any rate of a remarkable woman.

BEDDOES PEACOCK.

THE SCHOFIELDS OF STAKEHILL.

(Query No. 4,237, March 27.)

[4,251.] I believe there are some descendants of this family at present residing at Droylsden and Denton. I have in my hand while writing this a small piece of note paper which records the death of a Richard Schofield, who died at Batavia in the East Indies in 1801; and it also records the death of Nancy Hilton in 1820, Martha Hilton in 1822, and Isaac Hilton in 1822. From this I should conclude there must have been some relationship existing between the Hiltons and the Schofields. I am also told there was a Thomas Schofield, who died in 1867, aged eighty-two years, and whose father was interred at Prestwich Church when he was very young. The information I can gather is of a vague character; for, although there was a quantity of old wills and papers of various descriptions relating to the family, these appear to have been mislaid. W. B.

THE PLACE-NAME BACUP.

(No. 4,243 and others.)

[4,252.] Dr. MARCH has not diagnosed my literary habits correctly, for I *have* read Orosius (King Alfred's

translation), and have *not* looked into any dictionary for the glossing of bæcbord. I prefer to quote Grant Allen, who in his *Anglo-Saxon Britain* remarks as follows on the very passage from which Mr. March's extract is taken:—"A few words have undergone contraction or alteration, as steorbord, now starboard; and a few have died out wholly, as bæcbord port. Mr. MARCH is too modest a man to claim equality as an etymologist with Mr. Allen, and will perhaps admit that he is wrong in assuming that bæcbord has become metamorphozed into larboard. But let me add that the doctor's sneer at my fine writing does not atone for his blunder as regards Bæc-copp.

HENRY CUNLIFFE.

Rochdale.

QUERIES.

[4,253.] "SOMEBODY'S DARLING."—What was the origin of these verses, which are now to be found in various collections of poetry? I understand they first appeared in a Manchester paper or serial about the year 1863.

T. C.

[4,254.] HEBLETHWAYTE.—In Dugdale's *Visitation of Yorkshire* in 1666, occurs the following:—"Thomas Heblethwayt, slayne at Manchester in the service of King Charles the first, a^o. 1641. Sine prob." I should be glad of information as to any such skirmish at Manchester in the year named; or as to his place of burial, for he was not buried at his father's place in East Yorkshire. Would it take place at the Collegiate Church? If he had been wounded in the Irish conflicts of that time, and simply died at Manchester while on his way home, one would expect "died" in place of "slayne." As I am collecting for history of the old Sedbergh Family of Heblethwayte, I should be glad to receive notes of extracts which may aid me, or addresses of any of the name.

G. OSBORNE BROWNE.

Shireoaks, Worksop.

[4,255.] STANNYCLIFFE HALL, NEAR MIDDLETON. I should be much obliged if any local antiquary would give me some information about the above old hall. I find that Mrs. Ann Assheton died there in 1633 (Chet. Soc. Pub., vol. xiv., page 72); also John Hopwood in 1689 (Raine's MSS.); and in vol. xix. Chet. S. Pub., page 101, it is described "as a timber and plaster house, having a private chapel, and appears to have been built in the early part of the sixteenth century, and that it is now the property of

Mr. Hopwood and occupied by tenants." By whom was it built? Has it always been the property of the Hopwoods? Is there any description of it in any of the books written about the Old Halls of Lancashire or in Butherworth's History of Middleton? If so, where can one refer to the same, as neither the Reference Library in King-street nor the Chetham Library possesses a copy?

W. A. T.

GROWTH OF FRUIT BY NIGHT AND DAY.—Dr. Krauss, of Halle, has been making an investigation into the comparative growth of fruit during the day and night. He finds, as an extreme case, that the fruit of the cherry laurel increases at the rate of 90 per cent during the night, and ten per cent only during the daytime, while apples increase 80 per cent at night and twenty per cent in the day.

MARRIAGES OF ODDITIES.—A person who has spent his life in exhibiting human oddities has put on record recently his experience concerning the odd love affairs of these odd people. He says:—"In selecting life partners people generally choose their opposites, and this is certainly true of freaks. Mrs. Hannah Battersby, one of the fattest of all fat women, married John Battersby, a living skeleton. No sooner were they married than she began to lose flesh and he to gain it. His weight increased so rapidly that he soon became too stout to exhibit as a skeleton. Baron Littlefinger, an Italian dwarf, only a little over three feet high, married a woman who stands five feet six inches in her stockings. They have had children, one of whom is already larger than his father. Che Mah, the Chinese dwarf, married Louise Coleman, a full-sized, attractive young lady of Brooklyn. A handsome Brooklyn girl of good family was fascinated by "Charlie," one of Barnum's blackest, most repulsive Zulus, a few years ago, and married him in spite of all her friends could do. The first tattooed man ever on exhibition in America was a Greek sea captain, said by some people to have been a pirate, who travelled with the Barnum show, and had a number of handsome diamonds. He had been made prisoner by the inhabitants of some savage island and tattooed as a means of torture. There was not a place on his entire body the size of a pin's head that had not been treated in this way. His face was tattooed in such a manner as to make him anything but attractive in appearance and his savage tormentors even shaved off his hair and tattooed every inch of his scalp. Notwithstanding these drawbacks he married a handsome American woman, who was devoted to him. Millie Christine, the double-headed coloured girl, has had many offers, but has declined them all, apparently not caring to follow the example of the late Siamese Twins, each of whom married and raised a family.

Saturday, April 17, 1886.

NOTES.

THE PASTON LETTERS: A LOVE-STORY OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

III.

[4,256.] What Sir John replied to this we can only guess from the result; but that he was anxious to do what he could for the young people is evident from the next letter, which was written by him to his mother, in reply to one from her. In this he approves of her conduct in promising them the enjoyment of the manor of Sparham, in Norfolk. This manor of Sparham would appear to have been brought by Margaret Paston as dower on her marriage with John Paston the elder, father of Sir John and our own particular John, and it would appear to have been entailed upon her eldest son; for though Sir John is willing to enter into an obligation not to disturb them during his own life, he declines to cut off the entail, and points out certain inconveniences which might arise were such a thing done.

To my right worshipful Mother, Margaret Paston. Please it you to weet [*i.e.*, to know] that I have received your letter, wherein is remembered the great hurt that by likelihood might fall to my brother, if so be that this matter between him and Sir Thomas Brews' daughter take no effect, whereof I would be as sorry as himself reasonably. And also the wealthy and convenient marriage that should be if it take effect, whereof I would be as glad as any man; and am better content now that he should have her than any other that ever he was heretofore about to have had considered. Her Person, her Youth, and the Stock that she is come of; the Love on both sides; the tender favour that she is in with her father and mother; the kindness of her father and mother to her, in departing with her; the favour also, and good conceit, that they have in my brother; the worshipful and virtuous disposition of her father and mother; which prognosticates that of likelihood the maid should be virtuous and good; all which considered, and the necessary relief that my brother must have, I marvel the less that ye have departed and given him the manor of Sparham, in such form as I have knowledge of, by W. Gornay, Lormer, and Skipwith. And I am right glad to see in you such kindness to my brother as ye have done to him; and would, by my truth, lever [*i.e.*, rather] than an £100 that it were fee-simple land, as it is entailed; which by likelihood should prosper with him and his blood the better in time to come, and should also never cause debate in our blood in time to come, which God defend [*i.e.*, forbid] for that were unnatural. Item, another inconvenience is, whereas I understand the manor is given to my brother and to his wife, and to the issue between them begotten; if the case

were so, that he and she had issue together, a daughter or more, and his wife died, and he married, after, another, and had issue a son, that son should have none land, and [*i.e.*, although] he being his father's heir, and for the inconvenience that I have known late ensue [*i.e.*, ensue] in case like, and yet endureth, in Kent, between a Gentleman and his sister. I would ye took the advice of your Counsel in the point, and that [*i.e.*, that which] is past you by writing or by promise, I deem verily in you, that ye did it of kindness, and in eschewing of more ill that might befall. Item, whereas it pleaseth you that I should ratify, grant, and confirm the said gift unto my brother; it is so, that with mine honesty, I may not; and for other causes. The Pope will suffer a thing to be used, but he will not license nor grant it to be used nor done, and so I. My brother John knoweth mine intent well enough heretofore in this matter; I will be found to him as kind a brother as I may be. Item, if it be so that Sir Thomas Brews and his wife think that I would trouble my brother and his wife in the said Manor, I can find no means to put them in surety thereof, but, if it need, to be bound in an obligation with a condition—that I shall not trouble, nor infest [*i.e.*, infest] them therein. Item, I think that she is made sure enough in estate in the land, and that of right I deem they shall make none obstacles at my writing, for I had never none estate in the land, nor I would not that I had. No more to you at this time, but Almighty God have you in keeping.

Written at Calais, the 28th day of March, in the XVII. year of K. Edward IV.

By your son, JOHN PASTON, Knight.

Friday, March 28, 1477.

A fortnight later than the date of this letter is one from the Knight to his brother, chiefly about business matters, but wishing him "God send you good speed," and hoping that his future children may be "as honourable as ever was any of your ancestors or theirs," and promising that he himself should be a son to Sir Thomas and his Lady. This letter is dated Calais, April 14, 1477. So at last all matters were satisfactorily arranged between the high contracting parties, and the wedding took place. The exact date has not come down to us, but we may feel sure that all was done decently and in order, and may exercise our imagination in picturing the old frolics and customary rejoicings with which it was celebrated.

And now Christmas of this same year 1477 draws near, and we have a letter from Margery, the wife, to her husband, John Paston, who has been called away to London about some pressing business, perhaps not unconnected with the Law Courts, for they were often involved in law, these old time Pastons, and well able to hold their own therein; for grave judges and learned counsellors were many of the

family, and familiar with the forms of law and the procedure of those ancient courts.

To my right reverend and worshipful Husband,
John Paston.

Right reverend and worshipful Husband, I recommend me unto you, desiring heartily to hear of your welfare; thanking you for the Token which ye sent me by Edmund Perys; praying you to weet [i.e., to know] that my mother sent to my father to London for a gown of Mustyrdvylers to make a gown for me. [Moustier de Villiers, near Honfleur. Probably it was some peculiar stuff or cloth made at that place. See Stow, *Survey of London*. "In the nineteenth year of King Henry VI. there was bought for an officer's gown two yards of cloth, coloured Mustard-Villars—a colour now out of use."] And he told my mother and me when he came home, that he charged you to buy it after he was come out of London. I pray you, if it be not bought, that you will vouchsafe to buy it, and send it home as soon as ye may, for I have no gown to wear this winter but my green alyer, and that is so cumbrous that I am weary to wear it [whereby we may see full well that wives were much in the same case as to their wants in 1477 as at this present writing] As for the girdle that my father behested me [i.e., promised] I spake to him thereof a little before he yed [i.e., went] to London last, and he said to me that the fault was in you, that ye would not think thereupon to do make it [i.e., to have it made], but I suppose that it is not so, he said it but for a skeu-sacion [i.e., an excuse]. I pray you if ye dare take it upon you that ye will vouchsafe to do make it [i.e., to get it made] against ye come home, for I had never more need thereof than I have now, for I have waxed so jetys [i.e., prettily, meaning considerably, as we say pretty large, pretty well] that I may not be girded in no bar of no girdle that I have but one. Elizabeth Peveril hath been sick fifteen or sixteen weeks of the sciatica, but she sent my mother word by Kate that she should come hither when God sent time [i.e., when the time was come] though she should be crowed [i.e., carried or wheeled] in a barrow. John of Dam was here, and my mother discovered me unto him, and he said by his trowth that he was gladder of nothing that he heard this twelve month than he was thereof. I may no longer live by my craft; I am discovered of all men that see me [i.e., she could no longer hide her condition]. Of all other things that ye desired that I should send you word of, I have sent you word in a letter that I did write on our Lady's Day last was. The Holy Trinity have you in His keeping.

Written at Oxnead, in right great haste, on Thursday the next before St. Thomas's Day.

I pray you that ye will wear the ring, with the image of St. Margaret, that I sent you for a remembrance till ye come home. Ye have left me such a remembrance that maketh me to think upon you both day and night, when I would sleep. Yours,

Thursday, Decr. 18, 1477. MARGERY PASTON.

We learn further from a letter addressed by Sir John Paston to his brother "or my mistress, his wife," at Norwich, that the "remembrance" proved

to be a boy, for we find him congratulating them on "my fair nephew Christopher, which I understand that ye have, whereof I am right glad, and I pray God send you many, if it be His pleasure." This letter is dated, London, August 23 or 25, 1478. And now we come to the last letter of the series, which is dated some seven years later, and was written shortly after the death of Margaret, the mother of John Paston.

To my right worshipful Husband, John Paston. Right worshipful Husband, I recommend me unto you. Please it you to weet [know] that I sent your eldest son to my Lady Morley (widow of William Lovel, Lord Morley, who died July 23, 1475) to have knowledge what sports were used in her house in Christmas next following after the death of my Lord her husband; and she said that there were none disguisings, nor Harping, nor Luting, nor singing, nor none loud disports; but playing at the tables and chess and cards; such disports she gave her folks leave to play and none others. Your son did his errand right well, as ye shall hear after this. I sent your younger son to the Lady Stapleton, (widow of Sir Miles Stapleton who died 1466) and she said according to my Lady Morley's saying in that; and as she had been used in places of worship [i.e. houses of good family] thereas she had been. I pray that ye will assure to you some man at Caister to keep your Buttery, for the man that ye left with me will not take upon him to breve [i.e. to account] daily as ye commanded; he saith, he hath not used to give a reckoning, neither of Bread nor Ale, till at the week's end; and he saith he wot well that he should not condeneth [i.e. continue] and therefore I suppose he shall not abide, and I trow ye shall be fain to purvey another man for Symond, for ye are never the nearer a wise man for him. I am sorry that ye shall not be at home for Christmas. I pray that ye will come as soon as ye may; I shall think myself half a widow, because ye shall not be at home. God have you in his keeping. By your

MARGERY PASTON.

Written at Christmas Even (Friday, Decr. 24, 1484, second year of Richard III.)

That jovial soldier, and good-hearted fellow, Sir John, died in 1479, and was buried at Whitefriars, in Norwich, where his father had been buried before him, and his brother in due time followed. The John, our hero, succeeded, not only to Sparham, but also to the other manors of Paston, Oxnead, and the Castle of Caister. His son Christopher died in childhood, but his second son William, so named after his great grandfather, the Lord Justice (who was called, as Fuller relates, "the good judge," no mean tribute in those days), grew up, and succeeded his father. Margery died and was buried at Norwich in 1495, but her husband lived through a prosperous and reputable life. As a boy he was brought up in the

family of the Duke of Norfolk, as the custom was in those days, and afterwards a soldier in the wars in France, those disastrous wars which marked the earlier years of the reign of Henry VI. He was wounded at the battle of Barnet in 1471, fighting on the King's side; he succeeded his brother in 1479, shortly after his marriage, and so became at once a prominent man in his country; was High Sheriff in 1483, and was made Knight Banneret at the battle of Stoke in 1487 by King Henry VII. In 1501 he was one of the knights appointed to meet the Princess Catherine of Arragon on her landing at Plymouth, to be affianced to Prince Arthur, from which arose such important and far-reaching results. His son William was knighted, and the family continued to flourish, through Clement, a great naval commander of Henry VIII. days, who in an engagement with the French, took prisoner their commander, the Baron of Blankhearne, and kept him at Caister in his castle till ransomed. To this Clement it was also that Sir Thomas Wyatt surrendered after his insurrection and attempt upon the Tower of London in Queen Mary's reign. He received Musselburgh, and he also served at Newhaven, divers wounds, and was left for dead on the field of having command of some of Queen Elizabeth's ships of war, and was pensioner to two Kings and two Queens successively. "So rare," says old Fuller (*Worthies*, p. 455, Nuttall's edition), "was his happiness that he spent his old age honourably, quietly, and in good housekeeping, in this county (of Norfolk), where at Oxnead he built a goodly house for hospitality, and a hospital hard by for six poor serving men, retainers to his name and family, allowing them convenient maintenance." He died A.D. 1599, and lies buried at Oxnead. After Clement came his son Erasmus, and then Sir William, who founded and endowed a school at North Walsham, and whose effigy is still to be seen in the church at that place. Then another Sir William, whom Fuller calls "the bountiful promoter of all my weak endeavours," and to this last Sir William succeeded his son Robert, in whom the family reached its apogee, suddenly to decline and vanish into oblivion. Robert is mentioned in Pepys' Diary, and that vivacious gentleman and good man of business succeeded him as member for Castle Rising, upon his promotion to the peerage as first Viscount and afterwards Earl of Yarmouth. He pulled down the old

house at Oxnead and built a magnificent hall, which my readers will find figured in Britton's *Archæological Antiquities*, and was succeeded by his son William in 1682, who married Lady Charlotte Boyle, one of King Charles the Second's natural daughters, and became so deeply involved in debt that on his death without issue surviving, in December 1732, his estates were seized and sold by his creditors, and thus these letters became public property.

It is interesting at this point to return to the origin of this family history, and to see how the first Clement Paston, who "yed to market as a good husband should" with his corn, and borrowed money to send his son William to school and to the Law Courts, where he afterwards made so great a figure, first laid the foundation of the family greatness, and how the careful gathering together of wealth and land went on through so many generations, only to find its end in the very culmination of all that could be desired--of earthly rank and glory in a final and disastrous extinction. But as after the burning of the Tuileries, amid the crumbling ruins of the palace, there were found here and there on brackets in corners and high up on the tottering walls, vases of the finest and most delicate and fragile Sevres ware, which had escaped the general ruin, so amid the wreck of so much, and the failure of so many hopes and toils and aspirations, there still shines out this pleasant history of a good, modest, loving daughter, wife, and mother.

W. H. BARLOW, M.D.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"SOMEBODY'S DARLING."

(Query No. 4,253, April 10.)

[4,257.] The verses alluded to by T. C. appeared in the *Manchester Observer*, but I do not know of what date. They are preceded with the following note:—"This excellent little poem was written by Miss Marie Lacoste, of Savannah, Ga., and originally published in the *Southern Churchman*. It will commend itself by its touching pathos to all readers. The incident it commemorates was unfortunately too common in both armies."

J. B. H.

The Mount, Higher Broughton.

THE SCHOFIELDS OF STAKEHILL.

(Nos. 4,237 and 4,251.)

[4,258.] I thank "W. B." for his reply to my query, but I am sorry his information is of no use.

Schofield is such a common name in the south of Lancashire that without decided proofs the Schofields he mentions as descendants of the Schofields of Stakehill can lay no claim to be such.

In the Townley Hall MSS., edited by the Rev. A. B. Grossart, I have come across the following, besides what I have already quoted from Canon Raines respecting this family. "At Rochdale Manor Court, 17 March, 37 Elizabeth, 1594, Edmund Schofield of Stakehill, in Middleton, and his wife surrendered 21 acres and one messuage in Hundersfield to the use of Jennet Wolstenholme, widow, and then in her occupation. This Jennet was daughter of Mr. Edmund Schofield of Stakehill, and had married John Wolstenholme, gent., who died 1555. She was buried at Rochdale, 1598."

Edmund Schofield is named as a scholar at Middleton in 1575, and occurs as going to Oxford 1577, and would most probably be the above Edmund Schofield. I should be much obliged for any further information. I also give you the following notes I have made about the Schofields of Schofield Hall.

"Schofield Hall," Canon Raines says, "is a large and handsome house, in the Elizabethan style, in a most remote and desolate part of the parish; and here lived in the 15th Edward II., John, son of John de Scholefield, whose descendant, Captain James Scholefield, ruined himself by embarking in the civil wars of Charles I., and dying in the year 1693, was succeeded in the remnant of his estate by his son, Radcliffe Schofield, a barrister-at-law, who died 1708. The ancient patrimonial inheritance, however, had been sold in the year 1693 to Seth Clayton, Esq., who had married Alice, dau. of James Schofield, and after remaining in two generations of the Claytons was sold about the year 1770, by a decree of Chancery, to Robert Entwisle, of Foxholes, in whose representative it is now vested."

In a pedigree of Schofield, of Schofield, in Dugdale's Visitation of Lancashire, 1664-5, this James Schofield occurs as married to Alice, dau. of Saville Radcliffe, of Todmorden Hall, and as having five sons—Radcliffe, James, Caryl, Alexander, and Charles—the eldest, Radcliffe, being at that time twenty years of age, and he is the last Schofield, of Schofield Hall, of whom I have any record, dying 1708. In Burke's *History of the Landed Gentry*, 1837, in the pedigree of the Crossleys, of Scaitcliffe, co. Lancaster, Alice, dau. of Radcliffe Schofield, Esq., of Henshaw, is given as married to Luke

Crossley, 17 June, 1733, and she died at Rochdale 19 June, 1779. I believe there is, or was, a mural tablet in memory of Radcliffe Scholefield of Henshaw, in the Episcopal Chapel of Todmorden.

There also seems to have been a family of Schofields living at Newbold Hall, near Rochdale, most probably a branch of the above; for in *Notitia Cestriensis* (Chetham Society Publications, vol. viii., p. 249) a Mary Schofield, dau. and heiress of Richard Schofield of Newbold, gent., is mentioned as marrying, 3 Dec., 1656, George son of Colonel Thomas Ravenscroft, of Ravenscroft Hall, Co. Chester.

Any further information respecting this family will be much esteemed. S. H. D. T.

QUERIES.

[4,259.] GULIX HOLLAND.—Whilst writing my recent novel, *In His Own Hand*, Mr. Sam. Timmins, F.S.A., of Birmingham, kindly lent me the autograph manuscript inventory of the goods in both of William Hutton's houses when sacked and destroyed by the mob; an inventory prepared for the prosecution of his claim for compensation "in King's Bench, between William Hutton, plaintiff, and Thomas Archer and William Whately, defendants." In that inventory I find several items relating to Gulix Holland, both in the piece and converted into garments. One set of "new Gulix Holland shirts, a full breadth in the sleeves," points to a more voluminous construction of those articles than in these days. I do not write to call attention to that fact, but to ask if any of your manufacturing contributors can tell me what was Gulix Holland, and why so called? Of course I know that it was linen shirting or sheeting.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

ROBINSON CRUSOE'S ISLAND.—American papers state that the small island Juan Fernandez, where Alexander Selkirk passed his four years of solitude, has been leased by the Chilian Government to a Swiss named M. Rodt, who has established there a flourishing colony. M. Rodt exercises the power of a viceroy, and has the fullest administrative authority. The chief occupation of the inhabitants is agriculture, but some branches of manufacturing industry are also practised. M. Rodt encourages immigration, and among the new Crusoes are to be found Austrians, Englishmen, Frenchmen, North and South Americans, South Germans, Swiss, and Spaniards. There are no Prussians, the Governor having a rooted antipathy to Prussia.

Saturday, April 24, 1886.

NOTES.

THE PASTON LETTERS: A POSTSCRIPT.

[4,260.] We may see by the letters of Mistress Margery Paston that the ladies of that day made use of the same privilege of postscript as characterizes the epistolary communications of the sex in this present year of grace. Although I cannot claim to belong to that charming section of humanity, yet there are several fair representatives who can, with some apparent justice, claim that I belong to them, and perhaps on that plea you will permit me on this occasion to usurp their privilege.

It has occurred to me that I have omitted one point of interest in my account of the Pastons and their possessions. It is as to the Castle and Manor of Caister, which belonged to Sir John Fastolf—the original of Shakspeare's Sir John Falstaff—who built the castle there, the ruins of which I believe are still existent. The true Sir John Fastolf was a brave knight, a native of the County of Norfolk, coming of a good family and of English birth, as is proven by the fact that he was, in youth, a ward of John, Duke of Bedford. He was made Knight of the Garter by King Henry Sixth, and died early in his reign. He had lent money to Henry Fifth for the carrying on of the wars in France, and appointed William Paston judge, the grandfather of the two Johns concerned in our letters, whom he enabled by a writing under his hand to recover debts from the executors of King Henry Fifth. This William Paston was sergeant to King Henry Fourth, and of his Council for the Duchy of Lancaster, afterwards to Henry Fifth and Henry Sixth, and besides the ordinary salary assigned to the judges, he was allowed "110 marks and two gowns, to be taken yearly out of the Exchequer." Sir John Fastolf also appointed William Paston one of his Feoffees, and so he came into possession of the Castle of Caister, which, after some striking vicissitudes, finally remained in the family; but space does not permit their accountal at this time.

In conclusion, your reader and compositors have done their work in so admirable a manner that I scarcely like to point out the one or two trivial errors, which are most probably due to my hand-writing. One is the word "fetys" in Margery

Paston's first letter to her husband after their marriage, where the f is misprinted j; and in the same letter there should be a hyphen in the words "My green a-lyer," meaning a loose sort of dressing-gown. There is also a transposition of lines in one place, but the whole is so excellently done as to be worthy of high praise. WILLIAM H. BARLOW, M.D.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

STANNICLIFFE HALL, PARISH OF MIDDLETON.
(Query No. 4,255, April 10.)

[4,261.] Your correspondent may safely include this old residence among the ample possessions which the Assheton family held in that quarter of Lancashire. "The town of Middleton, and much the greater part of the parish," writes Dr. Aikin, "have long been in the possession of the family of the Asshetons, even previously to the first of Richard the Third, anno. 1483, at which time an extraordinary grant passed to Sir Randolph Assheton, as Lord of the Manor of Middleton. This property," he proceeds to say, "was increased, and remained in the possession of the Asshetons until 1766, when the estates of Sir Ralph Assheton devolved to his two daughters, one of whom married Lord Suffield, of Gunton, Norfolk, and the other Lord Grey de Wilton."

The Mrs. Anne Assheton, whose decease W. A. T. refers to, was the widow—first of James Assheton, Esq., and next of "Ralphe Asheton, late of Great Lever, Esq."—so described in her last will, which is dated 7th April, 1638; and in which mention is made by her of "my loving Cosin Sarah Hopwood"—an ancestor, doubtless, of the present owner of Stanniccliffe. I may add that I think it probable that the "Ralphe Asheton" above described, retired hither after disposing of his ancestral property, Great Lever Hall, which Bishop Bridgeman purchased and finally re-built, or added to, in the year 1631. It is of further interest to state that this gentleman contributed a bell to the domestic chapel of the Bishop, erected in his courtyard, and which yet remains, bearing the donor's name, with the date of its casting, ninth Charles First. Your correspondent will find a description of this old bell, together with the hall itself, in Mr. Henry Taylor's recently-published work devoted to the Old Halls of Lancashire and Cheshire; although I fear he will seek in vain for any corresponding particulars as to Stanniccliffe. I have never met with them.

R. L.

Great Lever, near Bolton.

THE SILVER COINAGE.

(Query No. 4,218, March 13.)

[4,262.] Through the kindness of my esteemed friend Mr. Sutton, the chief of the Manchester Free Libraries, I am enabled to answer this query. In the Library are copies of fifteen Annual Reports made to Parliament by the authorities of the Mint, the first of which is for the year 1870. From the Report for 1871, it appears that in the ten years from January 1st, 1862, to December 31st, 1871, the total amount of silver coins issued by the Mint was—£3,449,970 11 10 Which cost 2,466,397 9 10

Giving to the Government a profit of				£983,573 2 0			
Silver Coin issued from the Mint.				Profit on Silver Bullion purchased.			
1872	£1,285,780	0	3	1872	£147,315	19	7½
1873	1,082,424	13	0	1873	63,395	19	0
1874	874,244	4	4	1874	53,205	11	1
1875	597,540	17	1	1875	61,757	1	8
1876	234,232	2	0	1876*			
1877	407,822	17	1	1877	53,576	14	2
1878	614,426	11	10	1878	31,993	8	8
1879	567,125	9	5	1879	25,547	16	8
1880	744,829	8	11	1880	55,155	16	1
1881	1,004,323	14	6	1881	166,823	6	9
1882	206,755	17	10	1882	16,864	9	5
1883	1,272,025	2	0	1883	224,162	17	4
1884	664,433	6	1	1884	91,870	2	8
£9,535,964 4 4				£991,669 3 1½			
1862-1871 3,449,970 11 10				1862-1871 983,573 2 0			
£12,985,934 16 2				£1,975,242 5 1½			

* No silver bullion purchased by the Mint this year.

In comparing the amount of profit made upon the silver coined in the thirteen years, 1872-1884, with that made in the ten years, 1862-1871, one finds so much disparity as to suspect some error in the figures showing the profit in the ten years, and therefore I hesitate to found any argument upon them. The figures are, however, in the Report for 1871 as I give them. The annual average of silver coinage turned out by the Mint in the thirteen years, 1872-1884, was £733,535. 8s. 7d., which yielded yearly a profit of £76,282. 4s. 10d. to the Government.

Besides what silver coins may have been taken out of the country by emigrants and others, of which we have no account, considerable quantities were consigned direct to the colonies. The population of the United Kingdom in 1871 numbered 31,845,379; in 1881, 35,241,482. The export and import trades of the kingdom for the year 1870 aggregated in value to the sum of £547,338,070; in 1883 they amounted to

the enormous sum of £732,328,649. For several years up to 1870, the average annual value of gold coined by the Mint was £5,000,000; from 1872 to 1884, inclusive, the average was only £2,774,624; whilst since 1873 it has only amounted to £1,746,599. 10s., over £15,000,000 having been coined in 1872.

Bimetallists, who might as well ask for dual standards for weights and measures as for dual standards of value, will not find it uninteresting to ponder a little over the above figures.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

QUERIES.

[4,263.] WARDEN PEPLOE.—In the Registers of St. Anne's Church I find the following entry:—"1748. March 17. Ann, daughter of Samuel Peploe, Warden of Manchester, buried." Has any more of the Peploe family been buried here, and is there any stone with inscription on? Samuel Peploe, Rector of Kedleston, Derby, Vicar of Preston, Bishop of Chester; at what date was he rector?

JOSEPH LEIGH.

NOTABLE BARBERS.—The barbers of the past who were great men would fill a goodly page. William Winstanley, to whom we are indebted for the *Lives of the English Poets*, began his career by soaping faces. Farr, who introduced coffee into England; Dr. John Taylor, whose eloquent voice so often sounded in St. Paul's; Richard Arkwright, the creator of Lancashire prosperity; Jean-Baptiste Belzoni, giant and explorer; James Craggs—Mr. Secretary Craggs—of the South Sea Bubble; Mr. Herbert Ingram, of the *Illustrated London News*; Allan Ramsay, the "Gentle Shepherd"; Lord Chancellor Sugden (first on the Irish, then on the English woolsack); Lord Tenterden; Jeremy Taylor; Bizet, the composer of the opera *Carmen*, were born and bred, and were trained, in barbers' shops.

COLUMBUS A CORSICAN.—The Abbé Casanova, a Corsican archaeologist, has brought forward evidence to show that Columbus was a native of Calvi, in Corsica, and that charming little town means to claim him publicly as her son on the 23rd of next May. On that date a commemorative inscription will be placed on the front of a house in Calvi, in which the Abbé discovered in searching the local archives that Columbus was born. M. Grévy has studied all the documents on which the Abbé grounds the claim of Corsica, and has come to the conclusion that he has established his case. The President of the Republic has therefore authorized Calvi, the birth-place of Columbus, to celebrate as an official holiday the fourth centenary of the discovery of America by that navigator. The family of Columbus, it appears from the narrative of the Abbé Casanova, emigrated to Genoa, as that of Napoleon emigrated to France.

Saturday, May 1, 1886.

NOTES.

THE DAGUERRETYPE DISCOVERY.

[4,264.] A scientific friend of mine was a frequent visitor at the house of Daguerre in Paris whilst the latter was pursuing his investigations in photography. My friend's account of what he saw and heard whilst there was very amusing. He used to say that photographers little knew how much the discovery of the Daguerreotype was dependent on the influence exercised by a certain lady. Daguerre had married a charming woman, of whom envious acquaintances said he was very jealous. Be that as it may, it is certain he was much devoted to her, and remained at home at night enjoying his wife's society instead of promenading at the various places of amusement so much frequented by gentlemen in Paris.

At length, to relieve the tedium of these evenings at home, Daguerre resolved to recommence his experiments in photography, which had then been interrupted for some time. His ardent desire was to permanently fix, if possible, the beautiful views of objects depicted in the camera obscura. He had been for many years engaged, with others, in this investigation, and at last his perseverance was crowned by success. He had submitted the polished surface of a silvered copper-plate in the dark to the vapour of iodine. This plate was then exposed to a view in the camera obscura. Afterwards the iodized surface of the plate was acted on by the fumes of corrosive sublimate, and to his intense delight the camera picture became visible on the iodized surface. If my friend's story be correct, Daguerre's knowledge of chemistry was not very profound, for it is said that, after obtaining this picture, he proceeded to a neighbouring chemist's to inquire what corrosive sublimate was made from. He afterwards substituted mercury (quicksilver) for the bi-chloride of mercury. At first it required some fifteen or twenty minutes' sitting for a portrait in the camera. Other experimenters soon improved the process. Mr. Goddard, of London, reduced the time of exposure from minutes to seconds by the addition of bromine vapour to the iodine.

In my humble opinion none of the more modern processes of photography equal a perfect Daguerreotype in brilliancy and exquisite definition.

J. B. DANCER.

Handsworth.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

VIII.

[4,265.] 3. The Founder himself (continued). In his will, next to be mentioned, the Founder refers to an endowment deed, "bearing date the twenty six daie of this instant January" (1634-5) [and *not*, as Mr. Booker gives it, in his version of the will, "January 26 last past"] "made betweene me, the said Humfry Booth, the father, of the one part, and Humfry Booth, my sonne, Thomas Morte [the Founder's cousin], of Smithfolde in Little Hulton . . gentleman, Henery Wrigley of Salford . . chapman, Thomas Smith, of Smithfold aforesaid, chapman, and George Cranedge and William Cooke of Salford . . chapmen, of the other p[ar]te," whereby "divers closes, clawsures and parcells of land" were "given graunted, bargained, sold or otherwise conveyed and assured" upon certain trusts declared by that indenture, and upon further trusts to be declared by the grantor's will; and, in his declaration made to the Bishop immediately prior to the consecration ceremony (to be hereafter described), the Founder says—after stating that God had of His exceeding bounty . . entrusted him with more of this world's goods than He had done to many other men, and that it was the recipient's "bounden duty" . . to retribute back again part of His own—that he had "built up this house and furnished it with some necessaries for His service, and had fenced and walled it about, and had endowed it with twenty pounds yearly in perpetuity" [presumably by the above deed].

The Founder's Will, dated "the Last day of January," 1634-5 (of which the original was lodged in London, and a copy at Chester), has been epitomized, though in many places inaccurately, by Mr. Booker in his *Blackley*; but some parts of it have wholly escaped publication. Such of those parts as are worthy of the process I will now extract from the carefully collated copy I possess.

The testator, when declaring the additional trusts of the endowment deed last mentioned, and after referring to the provision for "the wages and maintenance of a preaching minister," says:

And as touching and concerning the nominacon and elecon of the said preaching minister it is my minde and will and I do hereby likewise limitt expresse declare and appoint that they the said Humfry Booth my sonne Thomas Morte Henry Wrigley Thomas Smith George Cranedge and William Cooke and the survivor and survivors of them shall have the nominacon and elecon of the said preach-

ing minister from and after my decease during their naturall lives and during the naturall life and lives of the survivor and survivors of them. And that after the decease of the survivor and longest liver of them then and from thenceforth the right heires of Robert Booth my sonne now lately deceased and the right heires of the said Humfry Booth my sonne shal have the nominacon and elecon of the said preaching minister for ever

. . . . And as concerning my other lands and hereditaments I shall not neede to make any disposition thereof by this my will for that soe much thereof as I doe intend to and for the said Humfry Booth my sonne is already estated [i.e. settled] upon him by act executed and some other parts of my said lands and hereditaments that is to saie soe much thereof as I conceive to be worth the some of twenty pounds yearly is estated upon certayne feoffees and their heires upon trust for and to the use of the poore of the Towne of Salford aforesaid and all the rest and residue of my lands and hereditaments I intend to estate by act executed for the preferment of the children and issue of the said Robte Booth my sonne deceased or some of them.

The blank left by Mr. Booker in his reference to the legacy to "Anne, daughter of my said sonne Robte," should be supplied by insertion of the word "tunne"—"a silver tunne" [tun].

The consecration of the Church took place on Wednesday, the 20th May, 1635—the Bishop's certificate or "sentence" being given or recorded two days later. The following account of the ceremony may prove interesting, compiled from a copy kindly furnished me by the Rev. H. F. Gore-Booth (the present rector, and a descendant of the Founder) of certain original records, formerly in the possession of the church officials, but, since the death of a former rector, missing from the local ecclesiastical archives. The copy is not invariably accurate, on account evidently of its not having been collated with the original after the operation of copying; but I have selected passages which appear thoroughly trustworthy.

The ceremony of consecration—which was performed by the Bishop of the diocese (Bishop John Bridgman) in company with, or in "the presence of Edward Russell, Notary public," and was undertaken "at the request of Humphrey Booth, Senior, founder of the said Chapel, and the other inhabitants of Salford aforesaid"—began by the officiating prelate going "to the said house built for a chapel," where "at the entrance into the church-yard, on the east side one Adam Byrom, Gent. of Salford (other inhabitants of the Division being present)" presented and publicly read a certain petition, to the effect, that the inhabitants

of the town of Salford, knowing that their parish church of Manchester was "not sufficient to contain the great number of people that belonged unto it (there being by estimation about thirty thousand communicants within the parish)," were then assembled to desire his Lordship "to separate this house and yard from common use and to consecrate it unto God's worship, and to give us license here in this place to offer up our public prayers to God, to hear His Holy Word read and preached to us, to receive the Sacrament and seals of our salvation, to Marry and Bury, and to do all other Holy Duties in the same way as it is usual in other Churches and according to the Rites and discipline of the Church of England." The petition (which appears to have been signed by "Adam Byrom, Adam Pilkington, Humphry Booth, junr., George Cranage, John Cranage, James Roscow, Robert Pendleton, Ralph Widdall (?), Thomas Rowland (?) Wright, Edwin Bycroft, Joseph Smith, Henry Wrigley, William Cook, George Scholes, George Linney, John Dodson, Adam Bowker, Peter Bowker, Ralph Bailey, Thomas Blamors (?), Jo Maisten, William Marsh,") was then delivered into the Bishop's hands, as were also the title deeds of the land on which the chapel was built, and a formal document signed by the Founder, in which he, after resigning all interest in the property, besought his Lordship, "as the deputy of Almighty God in this behalf," to accept the place and to consecrate it "to holy and religious uses for the comfort and the saving health of us His servants that dwell about it." "Which being received, we [i.e., [the Bishop] went into the Burial Ground; and, the "Choral Vicars and Choristers of the parish and Collegiate Church of Manchester being present, and the Rev. George Nicholls, rector of Cheadle, and some other Clergymen and preachers of the Divine Word, following, and singing part of the 136th Psalm, we walked round the said house or chapel;" and, after a strict examination of the buildings, "together with its furniture and ornaments, suitable to Divine Service, and certain lands and tenements, the ancient annual rents of which was thirty shillings, being now augmented and increased to the sum of twenty pounds or thereabouts per annum, for the stipend or salary of any suitable minister intended to be nominated for the performance of Sacred Rites in the said house;" his Lordship "approached to the north door . . . a great crowd following."

Then, "in the sight of the people," the Founder's son,

Humphrey, acting on behalf of his father, who was unable to be present, read aloud the document before mentioned; whereupon the Bishop "(the name of Christ being previously marked) accepted of the same; and, blessings being previously offered and made on the founders, and curses against those whoever in after time should presume to rob or violate the same," entered the House, and, the people being excluded, shut the door and took possession; and, "sitting in a certain seat prepared in the Chancel of the said Chapel, read public prayers from the Book of Common Prayer, and the 84th, 122nd, and 132nd psalms, and the fifth Chap. of the 2nd Chronicles, and the 21st of Revelations." Prayers being ended, "the 84th hymn was sung, and then Richard Hollinworth, Clergyman M.A. [the first incumbent], ascended the pulpit, and made and preached a sermon on the fourth verse of the 7th Chapter of St. Luke the Evangelist in these words, 'He loveth our nation, and hath built us a synagogue.'"

The Bishop then "passed to the Altar, a table fitted out for the Lord's Supper; and then, in the sight of all the people, we publicly read part of the sixth Chap. of the 2nd of Chronicles; and afterwards, sitting in a seat prepared, we issued the Writ of Consecration."

The ceremony concluded by the rendering of "certain select psalms" and the dismissal of the people with "a blessing."

The above-mentioned writ (given *in extenso* in the Bishop's "Sentence") contains much interesting matter, which I will postpone for my next note.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

MANCHESTER ORGAN-BUILDERS.

[4,266.] The following scrap from the *Stockport Advertiser* of January 23, 1824, relating to Messrs. Renn and Boston, organ-builders, not only supports all that a previous writer has said about the superiority of the instruments made by them, but also establishes the fact that previous to settling in Manchester they were located in the neighbouring town of Stockport. Moreover, the item is worthy of being enshrined in your columns if only for the reference to Grosvenor-street Chapel and its "respectable trustees." I give it *verb. et lit.* :—

"The organ which Messrs. Renn and Boston, of this town [Stockport] (late with Mr. Davies, of London), have been building for Grosvenor-street Chapel, Manchester, is now completed, and we are glad to hear that

the Trustees are so satisfied with the superiority of the instrument that, besides discharging the original contract, they have made the builders a munificent present of eighty pounds. This does equal credit to the respectable Trustees and to the builders."

E. W. BULKLEY.

Didsbury.

STANNYCLIFFE HALL, NEAR MIDDLETON.

(Nos. 4,255 and 4,257.)

[4,267.] Your correspondent W. A. T. wishes to know what is given in Butterworth's *History of Middleton* about the above hall, as neither the Reference Library in King-street nor the Chetham Library possesses a copy of that little work. The only reference to this hall is on p. 51, as follows:—"Stancliffe, a short distance from Middleton, is a venerable building, partly of timber; the name implies a stony ridge. According to tradition there was once a chapel here, but this is unlikely; yet it might be a small oratory for the tenantry of Hopwood."

Edwin Butterworth wrote his *Historical Notices of the Town and Parish of Middleton, in the County Palatine of Lancaster*, in 1839, the introduction being dated from "Busk, Oldham, Dec. 3, 1839." It was published in the following year, the title-page bearing the imprint, "Middleton: Printed and sold by William Horsman, 1840." It is an octavo pamphlet of 62 pages.

Edmund Hopwood, of Hopwood, Esq., died on Feb. 6th, 1611-12, seized of "two messuages, a cottage and 60 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Stancliff," which were held of the King [James I.] as of the late Priory of Saint John of Jerusalem in England, in free socage and by a yearly rental of four shillings, the same being worth per annum twenty shillings. (Record Society, vol. iii., p. 206.) These and other premises were to be held for a term of years by Theophilus Ashton, gent., and it is probable that the Mrs. Ann Ashton of Stanncliffe, whose will was proved at Chester in 1638, was his widow.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergale, N. Wales.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COLLYHURST.

(Note No. 4,238. April 3.)

[4,268.] Since the note on Collyhurst appeared I have been asked many questions concerning the ten pounds per annum which the Mosleys agreed to pay to the poor of the town for ever, in consideration of enclosing Collyhurst Common. They may be briefly summarized as follows:—Is the money still being paid? To whom is it paid? Is it applied according to the original agreement?

In 1849, Sir Oswald Mosley, Baronet, published or private circulation *Family Memoirs*, a copy of which may be seen in the Reference Library. Referring to this subject, he says: "Ever since that period (1616-17) this rent-charge has been regularly paid to the various Boroughreeves of Manchester before the incorporation of the town, and now to the Mayor for the time being." There is a foot note in the handwriting of the late Alderman Sir Thomas Baker to the following effect:—"This is not correct. For the last seventy years this rent-charge has been paid to the overseers of Manchester, and applied by them in reduction of the poor rate. The deed reserving the rent is in the Churchwardens' Deed-chest in the overseers' office. Thomas Baker, Mayor, August 19, 1881."

This will answer the first two questions satisfactorily. With reference to the last question, there seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether or not the fund is being applied as was originally intended.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,269.] PAN—What is the derivation of the name of the heathen god Pan? H. J.

[4,270.] TELEGRAPH WIRES AND THUNDER-STORMS.—Are telegraph poles and wires placed on or near a building a protection or a source of danger in a thunderstorm? D. OSWALD.

[4,271.] AUTHORSHIP OF POEM.—Who was the author of the poem named below, and where can a copy be seen?

A Poem on the late Rebellion, giving an account of the Rise and Progress thereof, from the Young Pretender's first Landing in the Isle of Skie, to his Defeat at the Battle near Culloden. By Philonactos Rossendaliensis. Manchester: Printed by R. Whitworth, for the Author. Price 3d., 8vo, 24 pp.

W. WIPER.

[4,272.] STANTON IN DERBYSHIRE AND SOMERSETSHIRE.—I have just been reading a description of what are called Druid Stones, which may be seen on Stanton Moor, near Darley Dale, Derbyshire. When living in Bristol, some years since, I visited a circle of such stones situated at Stanton Drew, about eight miles south of that city in Somersetshire. Will some one of your antiquarian readers kindly inform me why the same word "Stanton" is used to designate the moor in Derbyshire and also the village in Somersetshire, having in both cases these circles of stones deposited on it?

J. S.

THE AUTHORSHIP OF "LANCASHIRE HOB."

I. THE BOOKS CONCERNED.

"Who wrote Εἰχὼν βασιλικήν?"

"I," said the Master of Trinity,—

"I, with my little Divinity,

I wrote 'Who wrote Εἰχὼν βασιλικήν?'"

—WHATELEY, on Dr. Wordsworth's Book.

A poem of sixty-six lines, called "Lancashire Hob and the Quack-Doctor," will be found in Tim Bobbin's Works, being partly in the Lancashire Dialect, describing how a countryman named Hob, suffering from toothache, betook himself to a quack at Rochdale Fair and bargained for his six teeth to be drawn out for a shilling; and after they were extracted with a pair of pincers, a wager of five shillings was laid between patient and quack, which the latter lost by a trick of Hob's. There is doubt as to Collier's authorship of this poem. It seems very probable that it ought to be ascribed to Henry Brooke, a well-known Manchester man, and an associate of John Byrom and other literary persons.

The poem presented itself to my notice in a singular way. Two local pamphlets in verse, quarto in size, came together upon a shelf in my library occupied by such works, and I was led to compare them. One of them, large in size, dated 1745, is well known as the production of Henry Brooke alluded to, the Head Master of the Manchester Grammar School and a Fellow of the College of the same town. It is thus entitled:—

The Quack-Doctor. A Poem. As originally spoke at the Free Grammar School in Manchester. With Notes Critical and Explanatory. Interspersed with proper observations upon the Design, Conduct, and Execution of it.

Sibi quivis

*Speret idem, sudet multum, frustra que laboret,
Ausus idem.*—HOR.

*Old Manuscripts he treasur'd up,
And romag'd ev'ry Grocer's Shop;
At Pastry-cooks was known to ply,
And strip for Science ev'ry Pye:
For modern Poetry and Wit,
He had read all that Blackmore writ.
So intimate with Curll was grown,
His learned treasures were his own.
In Logic he acquir'd such knowledge,
You'd swear him Fellow of a Colledge:
Alike to every Art and Science
His daring Genius bid Defiance,
And swallow'd Wisdom with that Haste
That Cits do Custard at a Feast.*

—Female Fables,

To which is added, a Declamation, spoke at the same Time, upon the Breaking up of the School for Christmas, December 13, 1744.

London: Printed for J. Roberts, near the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-lane. MDCCXLV. (Price One Shilling.)

Half-title and "advertisement" one leaf; title, one leaf; Dedication "to the Reverend Mr. B——ke" [by the Annotators], dated Manchester, 2 February, 1744 [i.e., 1744-5], one leaf; Preface, one leaf; the "Declamation," two leaves; The Quack-Doctor, pp. 15. The verses are without merit. The Critical and Explanatory Notes are in a vein of irony, and the late Mr. James Crossley was of opinion that they were written either by the Rev. John Clayton, or Robert Thyer, Chetham's librarian.

A noticeable passage in the preface makes reference to the literary repute of the author in a region known for its neglect of such studies—words which cannot possibly apply to Collier. To Brooke's literary skill is attributed the great success he had met with in the learned world, "who, though a Poet, has excelled as an Orator, and, though an Orator, has excelled as a Poet:

—At hæc est

Rara avis in terris nigroque simillima cygno."

The reference seems to be to the Declamations and Poems which he wrote for recitation at the festive anniversaries at the Grammar School; for he encouraged his boys to prepare these oratorical exercises; and John Byrom at the same time also composed "The Three Black Crows," and other pieces for these occasions. To the same group of Poems some lines in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1740 seem to belong, the scene of which is laid at Warrikin (Warrington) Fair; Mr. Harland queerly ascribed them to the year 1548! The earliest of Mr. Brooke's studied works was an edition of the speech of Demosthenes on the *παρὰπρεσβεία* (or embassy executed in a faithless manner, *falsa legatio*), with the reply of the orator Æschines, in Greek and Latin; published at Oxford in 1721, octavo.

The fellow-pamphlet, earlier in date, but smaller in size, is anonymous, though, as will be seen, it is by the same author. It is thus entitled:—

The Quack Doctor; a Poem. In Three Parts [Here comes the quotation from the *Female Fables*]. To which is added, A Humorous Dialogue betwixt the Quack-Doctor and his Wife.

Preston: Printed and sold by W. Sargent. [No date.]

The Preface, occupying the next leaf, is the same as that in the copy already described. Then follows,

also as before, "The Quack Doctor," in the doggerel verse, *without the notes*, occupying two and a half pages. Next is "Lancashire Hob and the Quack Doctor," in sixty-six lines, occupying about three pages, concluding at page 10. The remainder of the pamphlet is missing in this copy. But the copy in the Free Library, Manchester (382, a. 20), is complete, the additional poems being "The Doctor and the Adder. A Fable," 2 pp.; and "A Humorous Dialogue between the Quack Doctor and his Wife," 3 pp.; extending up to page 20.

Another copy of this tract was some years ago in the office of one of the Lancashire newspapers, described in No. 763 of its series of literary and antiquarian notes. The bookseller's catalogue whence it was bought (Hotten's, price 7s. 6d.) said that it was printed by W. Sargent, 1750. Col. Fishwick (*Lanc. Lib.*, pp. 287-8) also gives the date 1750, and attributes "Lancashire Hob" to Tim Bobbin. In the phrase "printed by W. Sargent," he adds the words "[or for]." The tract is here described as "scarce."

The date of the tract is of importance, and the year 1750 seems to be a mere guess. There is little doubt that this was the first of the two editions.

William Sargent was originally a writing-master, of Preston. Without serving any apprenticeship in the town, he became a printer, bookseller, stationer, dealer in china-ware and other articles, at which time he was not free of the borough. In the principal poem in Brooke's tract, the magistrate is represented as suppressing the quack doctor—

"till he

Should of the Borough be made free;"

and of this magistrate it is said by the annotators of the poem that he was not "a worthy Justice" in Mr. Brooke's neighbourhood, "who has often given glaring instances of his zeal against Ballading, Bear-baiting, Dancing, and Tumbling." Sargent's shop was in the Market-place; he continued in the business for a number of years; and we find him in contact with John Collier himself, the dates of whose books should now be examined.

The edition of the *View* of the Lancashire dialect published at Manchester in 1757, called the sixth, only contains the Dialogue and Glossary. It is noticeable that at page 52 there is an advertisement saying that the edition of his work, "printed for Stuart of Preston," and for other country printers, "are all spurious," and that they "rob the Author

and impose on the Public." "Lancashire Hob," in Collier's works, first came out in *Tim Bobbin's Toy-shop Open'd*, octavo, Manchester, printed by Joseph Harrop, and dated 1763; and it appears at page 169. It is said to be "a tale;" and it is very noticeable that a date, "1762," is given to it, implying that Collier wrote it in that year. By that date Brooke had been dead fifteen years; and the poem, as we have seen, was published during Brooke's life. In Collier's *Human Passions Delineated*, folio, 1772 and 1773, there are, *more suo*, four tooth-drawing scenes (plates 5 to 8), which are indicative of his taste in such a subject.

In 1775, the octavo edition of Collier's *Miscellaneous Works*, "printed for the author and Mr. [J.] Haslingden, Bookseller in Manchester," comprising whimsical amusements in prose and verse, "some of which were never published before," contains "Lancashire Hob" at page 192, again with the misleading date of 1762." Of this edition there was an impression of not less than 6,000 copies. Collier was to see the work through the press; and Haslingden was to pay all expenses of publication, and to give the author £25 until half the impression was sold. All the subsequent editions have retained the date 1762 for the tale. In Heywood's edition, 1862, the poem occurs on page 447.

In the Salford edition of Collier's works, published by Cowdroy and Slack, and dated 1812, "Lancashire Hob" was illustrated with a plate, drawn by J. Slack. An illustration of more artistic merit, by Robert Cruikshank, will be found in a London edition of *Tim Bobbin*, published in 1828. A penny edition of poems, published at Manchester and Leeds without date, 8vo., pp. 32, also had an illustration of the poem.

Collier does not seem to have ever been in friendly relation with the Preston printers. Plate 40 in Collier's folio of 1773 is headed "Tim Bobbin's Rap at the Pyrates," representing the booksellers who had infringed his rights in his books:—

First Preston's *Stuart* heads the pilfering Troop
His Bro. of London stands the next ith' greup;
Which is the better man, or whether's worse
'There's none can tell me—but secure your Purse.
As for the first, could Higginson
Or Peggy blazon what she knows full well,
Mankind would shun him; converse they'd refrain
And brand his forehead for a second Cain.
Mark brazen'd *Finch* of Wigan how he stands
With *Bandyhewit* in his pilfering hands;
This man damned *Stuart* as a Rogue in Chief,
Then hastens home—and dubs himself a thief.

There were unpleasant suspicions of the honesty of Stuart's contemporary, Sergeant, in the year 1776, over *The Toy Shop*. On 14 March that year, J. Haslingden, of Manchester, writing to Mr. John Collier, Milnrow, speaks of purchasing "one" from Sergeant. Haslingden proceeds to relate that a lawyer, Chippendale, had called upon him, and had said that as soon as there was positive proof, Sergeant should be served with the copy of a writ; "but," adds Haslingden, "let us be cautious before we proceed with the law. Sergeant, I suppose, was rather dubious of being discovered in his practice, which caused him to give me a letter, which he pretends to date from Preston, and has got the Lancaster post-mark on. He gives an order for 200 copies, which I should have sent him had I got the plates to complete them; but I sent him by last Saturday's carrier 25 copies sewed. I have enclosed you Sergeant's last letter, and also Mr. Ashburne's; you'll take care of the letters—perhaps they may be wanted. I perceive Sergeant's drift was this—that he wanted 200 copies in qrs., which I suppose would have lasted him always, and would have been those he had had from us if he had been questioned about them. I am glad we was so fortunate not to send them."—(Jesse Lee's MSS.) Sergeant was elected Bailiff to the Mayor of Preston about the year 1780. He died in January, 1781, and his widow and his son Henry continued the business. Henry, son of William Sergeant, of Preston, bookseller, deceased, was admitted an In-burgess of the town at the Guild of 1782; when also Francis, and John, of Cuerden, schoolmaster, the printer's brothers, were entered, with other relatives.

It is noticeable that one of Sergeant's and Brooke's contemporaries, the younger Peploe, Warden of Manchester from 1738 to 1781 (he was born about 1699, and educated at Preston), was familiar with the Lancashire vernacular, and was wont to use it largely when addressing his countrymen.

Collier is said to have included in his works pieces that he did not write. The contributions of Colonel Towneley of Belfield to some of the humourist's tracts are well known. The picture of "The Pluralist," published in the *Human Passions Delineated*, was copied from an earlier cartoon. Collier regarded his books with no literary pride, but prepared them with the view of increasing his means. The absence of coarse expressions in "Lan-

cashire Hob" supplies an incidental proof that Collier was not the writer.

The poem thus claimed for Henry Brooke lends an additional interest to the writer of it, as well as to his other works. There are notices of him in Whatton's *History of the Grammar School*, p. 106; in Canon Raines's MSS., vol. xli., p. 276; in the Rev. J. Finch Smith's *School Register*, i., 1-2; and in Byrom's *Remains*, i., 294-5. Recently, in the admirable *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. vi., p. 424, Mr. W. E. A. Axon contributed a new memoir of him, the first time that he has had a place in such a work.

II. THE REV. HENRY BROOKE, A.M.

Tell him my name is Brook.

—MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, II., 224.

It is disappointing that the evidence about Mr. Brooke, now brought to light, deprives Lancashire of the honour of having bred him. Let not the acknowledgment lead one to treat him with disfavour. His fine commendation of the character of the Manchester people, which he has left on record (having been derived in part from his intercourse with the boys of the town), will lead us to retain him in our affections; and it will be read to-day by the descendants of the old burghers with more pleasure and interest as being the verdict of a stranger than if it were the opinion of a native of the town. He said: "The people upon the whole may be said to be of a good sort, being pretty much of the old English temper, hearty and sincere in their affections and expressions, given to hospitality, very civil and kind to their friends, and resolute against their enemies; are well disposed to religion, and very zealous in what way soever they engage in."

Brooke has always been said to be a Manchester man, being called the grandson of the Rev. William Brooke, of Manchester, clerk, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Jordan Chadwick, of Healey Hall, near Rochdale, gent. This marriage is found in Corry's *Lancashire*, 1825, i. 569-70; and in a note at page 629 there is a query whether this William Brooke, whom he calls "of Manchester, Parson," was not the Head-master of the Grammar School there, or the father of him. This note has probably given rise to the mistake in the paternity. Canon Raines more particularly adds

the names of Henry's parents, who are said to be William Brooke, merchant, of Manchester, and Elizabeth Holbrooke, a connection of Warden Heyricke's. This marriage was by licence at the Collegiate Church, 9 Jan. 1678-9; but a corresponding birth of a Henry Brooke is not to be found in those registers.

The real facts of Brooke's origin, as recorded by himself in a memorandum which he sent in the year 1740 to Dr. Rawlinson, of Oxford, are that he was the son of Anthony Brooke, and that he was born at Heddington (near Calne), in Wilts, on 24th May, 1696. This statement is confirmed by the register of his baptism, kindly extracted for me from the parish register by the Rev. F. H. Du Boulay, M.A., stating that Henry Brooks, son of Anthony and Sarah, was baptized 1st June, 1696. Mr. Du Boulay further says that Anthony was an independent gentleman, owning a property of three or four hundred acres in the parish, which he entailed upon his son Anthony; and that his wife, Sarah Childe, was related to the London banking firm of that name, which was connected with Heddington; she died in 1737. The elder Mr. Brooks bequeathed three cottages and gardens to his parish for the benefit of the poor.

Henry Brooke was not educated at the Manchester Grammar School, as is said, but at Sharston, 5½ miles west of Malmesbury, in Wilts; and he could not therefore have obtained any of the Manchester Exhibitions to Oxford. He was matriculated as a commoner of Oriel College, Oxford, 10th Oct., 1713. He graduated A.B., 25th June, 1717, and A.M. 30th April, 1720. His name was entered on the University registers as "Brookes," after the form of the baptismal entry. He was elected Probationer Fellow of his College, 30th April, 1719, and admitted actual Fellow, 1720. He took Deacon's Orders from Bp. Potter of Oxford, 4th June, 1721, and Priest's Orders from the same prelate on 24th Sept. following. He retained a connection with his native county, for in 1721, when he had completed his edition of the speeches of Demosthenes and Æschines, concerning the false embassy, he dedicated the volume to John Kerle Ernle, Esq., of Whetham, in Calne parish, Wilts. The full title of this work as given

in the British Museum printed catalogue (which says that it was in Greek and Latin, but it does not appear that the Latin version was Brooke's) is thus printed:—

Δημοσθένους καὶ Αἰσχίνου οἱ περὶ τῆς παραπροσβετοῦς
λόγοι ἀντιδικοί, &c. [Edited by H. B.] Gr.-
Lat. 1721. Octavo.

Edward Harwood, in his *View of the Classics* (second edition, 1778, p. 29), says:—"I have read this edition of Demosthenes's Embassy by Brooke, and can pronounce it to be published with great correctness and judgment." And the book is named in Bohn's Catalogue of Dr. S. Parr's Library, p. 162. The historic particulars of the incidents relating to the Embassy, with which these speeches deal, will be found in any account of Demosthenes under the year B.C. 342.

From Dr. John Mather, President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, Mr. Brooke received in the beginning of April, 1727, the appointment of the Head-mastership of the School of Manchester. This is Brooke's date; but the date in Whatton's *History* is 17 September of that year. His salary was at first £200, that of William Purnell, the second master, being £60. Brooke seems to have taken up his residence in "the Square," i.e., St. Anne's, at that time the fashionable part of Manchester. He had observed with admiration the excellent houses which the thriving burghers began to erect on that side of the town in his day; and he has left on record the impression which they made upon his mind. Looked at to-day, at a time when the streets are quiet, the air of respectability which they present will strike the attention of the observer. The Square, when Defoe saw it in 1727, was yet in prospective; and it was the only part of the town where the streets were broad. Mr. Brooke says: "The buildings are very handsome, being for the most part newly erected, and according to the modern fashion. Within these thirty years there have been new houses enough raised, where there were none before, to make a large town of themselves. Part whereof makes the Square, a piece of ground surrounded with large and lofty brick buildings. Near to this is King-street, where the houses are as stately, beautiful, and regular as some of the best streets in London. But what deserves particular notice

is the Exchange, a very large and substantial building, raised in the year 1729, at the sole charge of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., to whom the manor of the Town will descend after the demise of the present Lady Bland."

By the death of Radley Aynscough, who was buried 12 January, 1727-8, a fellowship in the College fell vacant. The three remaining Fellows were all Jacobites, but the Warden, Peploe, was a Whig. Brooke, who likewise was an adherent of the new dynasty, entertained hopes of obtaining the stall. But even before Aynscough's death serious differences arose over a successor, and there are records of many unclerical scenes. Byrom frequently mentioned the disputes. In the interest of the Jacobites the stall was sought for, amongst others, by the Rev. Joseph Hooper, and by the Rev. John Heber, great-uncle of the Bishop. The former declared he would stand to the election against all mandates of the Crown, if the Fellows would choose him. In the opposite interest one Mr. Whitaker obtained a nomination from the Crown, 24th Oct., 1727; and going down to Manchester and demanding admission was installed and sworn by the Warden, the Fellows protesting against it. The papers read in London society were interested in the dispute; and the *Evening Post* of January, 1728, states that Heber had been appointed. The questions at variance were debated before Lord Trevor, 13th Feb., and Byrom, who was present, gives the argument (*Remains* i. 294; and see pp. 302, *seq.*). At length Brooke obtained from the Crown a mandamus for his election, and the Chapter succumbed. He was admitted 8th June, 1728, the only Whig amongst the Fellows.

Brooke's chief interest in Manchester lay in his charge of the boys at the Grammar School. He keenly regarded the interests of the important trust. From the year 1726 there were many disputes at law over the ancient rights of the School-mills to the grist and malture of all the corn, grain, and malt, spent and used ground by the inhabitants in their houses. The old right to grind oats had long been lost, taken, or surrendered. The point in dispute was a very old subject of litigation. Brooke has left on record particulars of four great decisions and of many trials at Lancaster. It was from his pen

and not from Mr. Whatton's, that the abstracts of the legal decisions given in the History of the School (pp. 35-39) are due; and of this an acknowledgment should have been made. In the story of the Three Black Crows, Byrom makes an allusion to the litigation.

In 1726 the Feoffees had, for ten years, leased their four mills to two prominent burghers, Mr. Joseph Yates, the father of the judge, and to Mr. William Dawson, the surgeon, at an annual rental of £460. This high return shows that the town was then becoming very populous. The inhabitants, indeed, had increased so much by reason of extended trade, that six more mills, driven by horses, were set a-going by the Feoffees. Mr. Brooke says that the School Mills ground very well, and that the Feoffees claimed to be able to serve the entire town, except in cases of floods or droughts, which never lasted long. Much public inconvenience was, however, experienced; and the custom of taking all the grain to the School Mills, was being evaded both secretly and openly.

In 1728 (Oct. 18) the farmers just named presented a bill in the Duchy Court against Gamaliel Loyd, and others, for erecting a brew-house in Salford, and some for selling ale and beer brewed therein to the burgesses of Manchester, without grinding the malt at the School Mills, to which by custom it belonged. On 28th Nov., an injunction was issued against the offenders, and they submitted thereto. Byrom, and many others of the burghers who suffered from the monopoly, took up the cause of the opposition millers, and raised subscriptions in their defence. On 17th Dec., Byrom was at the Bull's Head in the Market Place, taking his morning draught in the company of his good friends, Darcy Lever, Rev. Thomas Cattell (Fellow), Dr. Deacon, Rev. Thomas Hall (Fellow), Henry Brooke himself, Rev. Richard Asheton (Fellow), Ashton Lever, and Mr. Cooper. The company began to dispute with Cattell, (author of the verses beginning

What's a sermon, good or bad,
If a man reads it like a lad?)

about the question of the mills, which was then exciting the town; and Byrom delighted the party by producing his epigram, just written, upon Yates

and Dawson, already mentioned, who were well known for their gaunt appearance, being tall and meagre men:—

Here's Bone and Skin, Two millers thin,
Would starve the town or near it;
But be it known To Skin and Bone
That Flesh and Blood can't bear it!

Byrom states that these lines made all his friends laugh much, and that they put an end to the controversy. "Father Byrom," he adds, gave two guineas towards the fund for the defence of the town. The epigram got into the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

The tedious and expensive lawsuits, which kept continuing, including one against Sir Oswald Mosley, who set up a horse-mill in Hanging Ditch, affected the income of the school. In 1731 Brooke's salary was £180, and Purnell's was £80, with £30 in arrear. The same irregularity continued in subsequent years: It seems to have been to this litigation that Brooke referred in 1741, when he reminded his fellow-townsmen that many thousands of pounds had been spent in law within some few years past, "which might have been better employed."

Hearne in his *Reliquiæ* (iii. 2-3) records at Oxford that he spent the evening of 15 Oct., 1727, with "Mr. Brook of Oriel College," and others, who were discussing an election to a fellowship then proceeding at that college, when Mr. Brook voted for one Mr. Wicksey. Dr. Robert Shippen, son of a Rector at Stockport, was interested in this election.

On or about 3rd June, 1730, Brooke was presented by Oriel College to the Rectory of Tortworth, near Wotton-under-Edge, co. Gloucester, the advowson of which that Foundation had recently purchased from Lord Ducie; and it was on the death of Dr. Henry Bull that Brooke succeeded. Brooke did not reside upon the living; but the duty up to 1750 was discharged by curates. This Rectory was of late held by the Rev. Clement Greswell, M.A., youngest son of the learned Rev. W. Parr Greswell, for sixty-three years incumbent of Denton, near Manchester, and brother of two highly distinguished alumni of Manchester School, William and Edward Greswell (*Register*, iii., 77-82).

No particulars are forthcoming of the marriage

of Mr. Brooke. The record is not in the Collegiate Church Registers. Those registers, however, note the baptism of a child 28 Oct., 1734, named Thomasine, described as daughter of the Rev. Henry Brooke, one of the Fellows of the College.

Byrom mentions Brooke's visit to London in January, 1735, when some important business, relating to the college at Manchester, to be kept secret, was being transacted. "I met Mr. Cattell to-night [2nd Jan.], and am now at Will's coffee-house with Mr. Brooke and him." Will's coffee-house was in Bow-street, Covent Garden, where the chair that Dryden used was long a fixture.

At Easter, 1735, the Rev. Mr. Brooke, clerk, was not enrolled, as he ought to have been, as a tenant owing suit and service to the Manor Court of Manchester.

It can be inferred from Mr. Brooke's other duties that his school was neglected. He himself acknowledges as much in the dedication to his essay on the Use of the Classics, in 1744, saying that he had been absent from his charge "on necessary business." About that time he had thought of quitting the school, or putting in a substitute, and he was informed, he says, that he might adopt the latter course. From 1741 to 1744, however, he was attentive to his duties, if we are to believe his own statement; and some of the boys were successful at the Universities. It was at that time customary for the master to read in the school suitable parts of the morning and evening prayers. To Mr. Brooke's time the first existing register of the scholars belongs. It begins very carelessly on 29th May, 1730, and extends to 30 April, 1729, with many palpable omissions; it records the admissions of 333 boys during his rule of twenty-two years. The Editor of the Register considered that its condition certainly indicated no care. The first scholar on the list was the unfortunate Thomas Coppock, "Bishop" of Carlisle; and not far from him is his companion in adventure, William Brettargh. Brooke had a share in the breeding of some noticeable scholars, amongst whom were Joseph Yates, the Judge; Thomas Blacow, Canon of Windsor; John Watson, the distinguished historian and antiquary; John Whitaker, no less famous in the same capacity;

and Reginald Heber, father of the missionary bishop. The master also had in his care members of the families of Vigor, Downes, Mosley, Seddon, Hoole, Birch, Philips, Clowes, and Bayley. The Rev. W. Howley, father of Archbishop Howley, was likewise educated at the school, though his name does not appear on the Register; and the Archbishop remembered his father speak of Mr. Brooke as "an accurate and accomplished scholar, though lenient as a disciplinarian."

In 1733-35, "Rev. Henry Brooke, A.M., Fellow of the Collegiate Church in Manchester," with his co-Fellows, Asheton and Bankes, was a subscriber to the two folio volumes of Tillemont's *Ecclesiastical Memoirs*, as also was the son of his friend already mentioned, John Kyrle Ernle, of New College, Oxford. Brooke's subscription copy is now at Tortworth Rectory. This fine work should be regarded as one of the chief Manchester books. It is most excellent in style and matter, and it is much to be regretted that it was never completed. The translator was Dr. T. Deacon; but his name nowhere appears in it. He was busy with it in 1731, when we find him saying that he had it as much at heart as his townsmen the Presbyterians then had the question of the proposed work-house! It was subscribed for by the leading literary persons in the town, including Byrom, Clayton (whose father William, the bookseller, published it in the town), Darcy Lever, the Hon. Lady Bland, Dr. Maynwaring, Banne (Rector of St. Anne's), Purnell (Mr. Brooke's excellent assistant at the school), and many others.

In 1740, Brooke published the first edition of what appears to have been a popular Essay on Peaceableness, in which he earnestly enforced in a clear and temperate way the advantage of the apostolic counsel, "Study to be quiet." A copy of the first edition now before me was once Dr. Hibbert's (before he became Hibbert-Ware), whose inscription is upon it when he presented it to Thomas Heywood, Esq. There does not appear to be a copy in the local public libraries; but there is one at the British Museum. My copy is thus entitled:—

A Practical Essay concerning Christian Peaceableness. Useful for Families: being calculated for a

Country Parish. By Henry Brooke, A.M. Fellow of Christ's College in Manchester.

London. Printed for Charles Bathurst, at the Middle-Temple-Gate. MDCCXL.

8vc. Title, Dedication "to the Inhabitants of Tortworth in the Diocese of Gloucester," signed H. B., and Contents, pp xxii; The Essay, pp 163; and Prayers for Peaceableness, pp 165-8.

The "second edition," so described, has the same title, except that the words "being calculated for a country Parish" are omitted. It is added instead, "With a postscript to the inhabitants of Manchester. By Henry Brooke, A.M.," as before. The imprint is—

London, Printed for Charles Bathurst, in Fleet-Street, and sold by J. Hodges Bookseller in Manchester 1741. In calf 15d. in Sheep 1s.

8vo. This was merely a new title-page, the body of the book being from the same type as the former edition up to page 168. Then follows the Postscript, 16 pp. The writer has a copy of this edition; and there is another in the Free Library (332 K. 20) which once belonged to John Winder of Brasenose College, Oxford, who was M.A. 5 July, 1748.

Hodges was an intelligent bookseller of Manchester; he is introduced once in Byrom's *Remains* under the year 1727 (i. 266).

In the Postscript Brooke tells his townsmen that he offers his book to them not as a cure for Disorders past, but as a Remedy against those that might hereafter arise.

"The third edition with additions" has a new title-page. The imprint is:—

London: Printed for Charles Bathurst, and sold by J. Hodges and R. Whitworth, in Manchester. MDCCXLI. Price 15d. in calf, in sheep 1s.

The book itself and the prayers are again from the same type as the former editions. "A postscript to the inhabitants of Manchester" is set up afresh, now making 31 pages; and it is here that the "additions" are made. An extra paragraph is inserted near the beginning; and there is an addition at the end, to the extent of eight pages, describing the character of "an unpeaceable Person."

This copy described is in the Free Lib. (418, B 31). It has the following inscription:—"Thos. Chorlton, is Book, the gift of Mr. Hallsworth." There is a copy of one of the editions in the library at Tortworth Rectory (*Gr. School Reg.*, vol. i. 220).

On 11th April, 1740, according to his own statement, Brooke had in the press an Essay on the Art of Speaking in Publick. This does not now seem

to be known. His library contains a book on the *Art of Speaking in Public*, Lond., 1727.

In April, 1743, he was inquiring of Byrom in Cambridge about vacant fellowships in St. John's; and there are other references to him in that poet's *Remains*.

The following is the title page of his address to his school upon the advantages of classic literature:—

The Usefulness and Necessity of Studying the Classics, a Speech, Spoken at the Breaking-up of the Free Grammar School in Manchester, Thursday, Dec. 13, 1744. By Hen. Brooke, A.M., High Master of the said School. Manchester: Printed by R. Whitworth, Bookseller, MDCCXLIV [a mistake for 1744].

8vo., title 1 leaf, dedn. 2 leaves; the Speech pp. 1—16. (Free Lib. copy 451, D. 67.)

It was dedicated to Warden Peploe, the Visitor of the College, and the feoffees; and it was wholly reprinted in Whatton's *History*, pp. 106-110.

Mr. Brooke, it is noticeable, did not approve of a custom then followed of instructing boys of the "large" school at Chetham's Hospital in the Latin language. He said that "it would be of much greater use to them, as they are only put to mean trades, if they were only taught to read well and write a good hand, and to understand arithmetic, and had a clear and just notion given them of the principles of religion, without meddling with Latin, which they'll have no occasion for."

The "Mr. Brooks," who, according to Miss Byrom's journal, died at Mr. Byrom's, her uncle's, in "Kay" (Quay) street, Manchester, 7th January, 1745-6, was one "John Brooke," as the sexton writes the name when making the burial entry on the following day.

The sermons of Mr. Brooke now to be noticed are amongst the scarcest of tracts:

Two Sermons, Occasioned by the General Thanksgiving Appointed by His Majesty's Proclamation, on October the 9th, 1746, for the Deliverance of these Kingdoms from the late Rebellion and the Calamities of an Intestine War.

By Henry Brooke, A.M., rector of Tortworth, in the Diocese of Gloucester, and Fellow of Christ's College in Manchester, Lancashire.

London: Printed for C. Bathurst, at the Cross-Keys, over against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleetstreet. 1747.

Octavo. Title 1p.; Dedication to Martin (Benson) Lord Bishop of Gloucester, "in Honour of his Personal Worth and in Reverence of his Episcopal Character," 1p.; first Sermon, on Pa. xcvi. 1, pp. 3-22. Sermon II., on the same text. pp. 23-39.

The next discourse has a more local interest :

The Respect and Submission due to the Constitution both in Church and State.—A Sermon preached on Tuesday, April the 7th, 1747, at the Assizes held at Lancaster, Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Reynolds, One of the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer. Published at the Request of the High Sheriff and the Gentlemen of the Grand Jury.

By Henry Brooke, M.A., Fellow of Christ's-College in Manchester.

London: Printed for C. Bathurst, at the Cross-Keys, over against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleetstreet. 1747.

Octavo. Title 1p.; Dedication to Mr. Justice Reynolds, Samuel Birch, Esq., High Sheriff, Thomas Butler, Esq., Foreman, and the rest of the Grand Jury, pp. 2; the Sermon, on 1 Pet. ii. 13 (former part of the verse), pp. 5-31. There are some paragraphs in square brackets, which "were omitted in preaching for fear of being too tedious." On the last page are advertised the two Sermons already noticed; and the Essay on Peaceableness, price 1s. 6d.; both sold by S. Newton, Bookseller in Manchester.

Sir James Reynolds, formerly Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland, became a Baron of the English Exchequer in 1740. He died within a month after presiding at this Assize.

This discourse is noticed in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, xvii. 252.

It was in 1749 that Brooke resigned the mastership of the school; and he went to reside at Tortworth. A portion of the old rectory yet remains; and therein is also preserved his library of books which he bequeathed to his successors at the parsonage. Mr. Greswell made a reference to them in the *Grammar-School Register* (i. 220). The present rector has made a careful catalogue of the collection; and for the loan of his MS. I am much obliged to him. There are over eight hundred entries. The books mostly belong to the end of the seventeenth and beginning of next century. The titles indicate a reader of wide tastes, and one who was interested in literature up to the last. The subsequent Rectors seem to have added books to the collection. A good number of the volumes are theological, consisting of the standard divinity books by Taylor, Mede, More, Sherlock, and others. The folios are about sixty in number. Norris seems to have been a favourite writer with him, as well as the works by the author of *The Whole Duty of Man*. There are two editions of the *Εἰκὼν Βασιλική*, dated 1648; also the 1648 folio edition of Diodati's *Pious Annotations on the Bible*. He had the 49th edition of *A Week's Preparation*

for the Lord's Supper (Lond. 1742), with several copies of the first, second, and third editions of the same book. There is a good series of the works of the dramatists and poets, from Shakspeare to Pope. His Shakspeare was Pope and Sewell's, 1728. The Dublin edition 1758, of Parnell's Poems is there. The *Spectator* and its followers are well represented; as also are the classic authors, among which are many editions of Demosthenes, with several works relating to the scholastic profession. There is the 1687 edition of the Prayers of Ken, for use at Winchester School. Some medical works are in the collection. Of local books we only identify *The Complete History of the Rebellion*, 1745-6; Peter Newcome's *Sermons on the Catechism*, 2 vols., Lond., 1712; Bracken's *Farriery Improved*, Lond., 1739; and Henry Gore's *Vulgar Arithmetic Improved*, Manchester, 1733, dedicated to the merchants and tradesmen of the town. Of scarce books there is a copy of Inigo Jones's folio on *Stonehenge*, London, 1655; Shelton's *Don Quixotte*, 1725; a book on the heads of the Cæsars dated 1553; Aldus's *Libri de re Rustica*, 1513; the 1543 Basle edition of Livy's Roman History, and the 1569 edition of Xenophon, at the same place; and *Il Cortegiano del Conte Baldessar Castiglione*, Lyons, 1562. Mr. Brooke was a Justice of the Peace for the county, and he had amongst his books two called *The Practical Justice of Peace*, 1745, and 1751.

Mr. Brooke died at his Rectory in August 1757. His death is mentioned by Byrom, who, writing from Manchester, 8 Oct., 1757, to his old college associate, Mark Hildesley, Bishop of Mann, tells him of the welfare of the clergy whom the prelate had met in this town two years before, when he got some Manchester horses to convey him and his luggage from that town to Liverpool, the journey occupying a long summer's day. Says Byrom: "Mr. Foxley is very well. Mr. Brooke, one of the Fellows of our church, is dead, succeeded by one Mr. Crouchley, a neighbouring clergyman. . . . All our family, who have a great regard for you, salute you and yours." (*Remains*, ii. 600.) A monument was set up to his memory in Tortworth Church, thus inscribed:—

In memory | of the Revd. | Mr. Henry Brooke, | formerly Fellow of Oriel | Coll. in Oxford, | late Rector of this Parish, | and Fellow of | Manchester College; | died August 21, 1757, | aged 63 years.

In the year 1830 there was a portrait of Brooke at one Mr. Hulton's at Blackley, it being then well known to Mr. Singleton, the incumbent of that place. Where is this portrait now?

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

Saturday, May 8, 1886.

NOTES.

THE SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.

[4,273.] Referring to the communications in your issues of December 6, 13, and 20, 1884, as to the origin of the Saturday half-holiday, I have now to state that the original document, signed by 410 merchants and others, agreeing to close their places of business on Saturday afternoons, beginning on the fourth of November, 1843, and also signed by the representatives of forty carrying establishments, agreeing to promote the movement, was handed to the Mayor of Manchester, Alderman Goldschmidt, on Friday, April 30, in order that the said document, which is really the Charter of the Saturday Half-holiday, may be deposited with the city archives or in the Reference Library. I retain a copy should any one desire to see it.

Rusholme.

THOMAS NOTON.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COLLYHURST.

(Nos. 4,238 and 4,264.)

[4,274.] Can Mr. JOHN MELLOR give the present boundary of Collyhurst Common for which the overseers receive payment?

MANCUNIAM.

Nottingham.

PAN.

(Query No. 4,265, May 1.)

[4,275.] It has often been pointed out, and notably by the pleasant French writer M. Albert Reville, in *Les Dieux de la Grèce Antique*, that the name of this god has misled many philosophers and mythologists, even of recent times, into representing him as a sort of pantheistic "All;" whereas originally he was but a humble shepherd-god, a village Apollo, a son of the mountains, and protector of the sheepfolds of Arcady. The name derives from *πάω*, *ὁ Πάων*, "the shepherd," recalling the Sanscrit root "pâ," which is met with again in "pastor" and other English words.

A. S.

Kersal.

POEM ON THE REBELLION OF 1745.

(Query No. 4,267, May 1.)

[4,276.] There is a copy of the poem inquired for by Mr. WILLIAM WIPER in the Free Reference Library. The number is 19,604.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

48, Torrington Square, London.

* * *

Lieut.-Colonel Fishwick, in his *Lancashire Library*, page 312, mentions the work referred to by Mr. WIPER, but does not give any author's name. He adds that the work is scarce, and that a copy is in the library of Richard Wood, Esq., of Manchester.

E. KERR.

* * *

I shall be pleased to send Mr. WIPER any information from the above poem which he may want. I do not know who the author, "Philonactos Rossendaliensis," was.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergelle.

WARDEN PEPLOR.

(Query No. 4,259, April 24.)

[4,277.] For information concerning Samuel Peploe, warden of Manchester and Bishop of Chester, and his son Samuel, who was also warden of Manchester, Mr. JOSEPH LEIGH should consult *The Wardens of Manchester*, by Canon Raines and Mr. John E. Bailey, one of the latest publications of the Chetham Society. The elder Peploe, who was born in 1668, became rector of Kedleston, near Derby, in 1695, and appears to have held the living five years, as he was appointed Vicar of Preston in 1700. He was Bishop of Chester from 1726 to 1752, when he died, and was buried in Chester Cathedral. The Ann Peploe mentioned by Mr. LEIGH as buried in St. Anne's Churchyard in March, 1748, would appear to have been the daughter of Samuel Peploe the second, not of the Bishop of Chester. The junior Peploe succeeded his father as Vicar of Preston, and all his children were born and baptized there. He had two daughters named Ann. The first was born March 1728-9, buried at Preston, July 1736; the second, born January 1738-9, will be the one whose burial at St. Anne's Mr. LEIGH records. WEST MORLAND.

TELEGRAPH WIRES AND THUNDERSTORMS.

(Query No. 4,266, May 1.)

[4,278.] Telegraph wires carried over or attached to a building cannot be relied on to protect the building from damage by lightning. They do not tend to increase the danger.

Lightning (electricity) will find the path offering the lowest resistance to its passage to or from earth. We need, however, consider only the direct stroke which generally strikes from the clouds to the earth, but the following remarks apply equally to the return stroke. Because the damp surface of brick or stone,

walls, slates, and especially metal-work (finials, gutters, down-pipes, gas and water-pipes) offer infinitely less resistance to an electric current than atmospheric air, the lightning strikes any building coming within range of the electrified cloud so as to reduce the previous resistance sufficiently to enable the discharge to take place. If a telegraph wire is over or near the building, an ordinary flash of lightning would bifurcate and strike both the wire and the building. The reason is—the telegraph wire (together with the wire coils in the instruments at its ends) offers too high a resistance for the whole quantity of electricity to pass, the result being that the instrument coils (unless specially protected) are destroyed. The other path, viâ the building, conducts the other (and usually greater) quantity of the current. If the whole quantity of electricity is small, the wire might take it all, leaving the house intact; but this, I think, is unusual.

From this you will infer that telegraph wires over buildings tend to lessen the quantity of electricity striking the building, but only slightly, not sufficiently to reduce the damage to an appreciable extent. An efficient lightning conductor offers practically no resistance to the lightning, and its sectional area is such as to enable it to conduct all the current. Therefore it is impossible for the electricity to leave it and take the path of greatly higher resistance by way of walls or down-pipes.

JOHN LAVENDER, jun.

Broughton Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,279.] BOLTON TO PRESTON BY ROAD.—I wish to ascertain, if possible, the precise distance from Bolton to Preston by the highway leading through Belmont and Withnell. ROBERT ROSCOW.
Littleborough.

[4,280.] CHURCHWARDENS AND SIDESMEN.—Will some of your correspondents be good enough to give a little information as to the origin, duties, and responsibilities of churchwardens and sidesmen; or inform me as to what book or books can be consulted thereon? G. T. W.

[4,281.] AUTHORSHIP OF PAMPHLET.—“A Parting Tribute to the Memory of a Friend. By J. S. S. For private circulation. Manchester, 1850,” is the title of a pamphlet now before me. Was Mr. John Stores Smith the writer? The pamphlet is finely

composed, the author evidently possessed a strong affection for the subject of the memoir, and his description of his friend's monetary and other difficulties, which led finally to his suicide, is graphic and touching. Who was this man who made so deep an impression on the heart of J. S. S.? He is stated to have been “better acquainted with the antiquities and history of Lancashire, more especially of North Lancashire, than any other Manchester man. He not only knew the barren details, but he also loved the places and their associations. In the waste fells of Longridge and of Parlick; in the persecuted Nonconformists on the bleak crest of the great peak of Pendle; in the relics of Mitton, and Sawley, and Whalley; in the ruins of Furness, and the traditions of all the region round about, he was deeply interested.” He is also said to have had an extensive knowledge of engravings, and dealt largely in them in the hope of retrieving his shattered fortunes.

W. R. C.

THE CHURCHYARD AT CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY, May 5.

There can be no wonder that at the late inquiry the sexton said he “could find three skulls to one man,” and that bones were “often dug up,” when it is remembered that there has been a parish church standing on the same spot for more than 350 years, and when we find that the churchyard contains only three or four graves bearing date no earlier than the close of the last century. All the other graves contain the remains of persons who have died during the present century. Where are all the graves of persons who died in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries? The churchyard of Chorlton-cum-Hardy has for a long time been a popular burial place with the Manchester people, and is now full of them.

One of the most interesting graves in the yard to a Manchester man is that of Thomas Walker, in the southern portion of it. He was a leading man amongst the Liberals of the day, at the close of the last century, and held the office of boroughreeve. His house and warehouse were once attacked by a mob, and in 1794 he was tried for treason, and defended by Erskine, in one of his greatest speeches. He afterwards resided at Longford Hall, now the residence of Mr. John Rylands. He died in 1817, at the age of sixty-eight years.

The grave also contains the remains of his daughters Amelia, Margaret, Louisa, and his wife, who died in 1821 at the age of seventy-four; and also of Charles James Stanley Walker, who died about ten years ago, aged eighty-seven years. He once told me that he remembered when a little boy that his father lived in the last house of South Parade, when the house was attacked by a furious mob, and that he was taken out of harm's way by being carried out at the back of the garden, which extended a long way towards the river. He had a brother Thomas, who was a barrister and a metropolitan police magistrate, and the author of a well known work, *The Original*. He does not appear to have been buried in the family grave.

The yard also contains the remains of the Rev. Dr. Morton, who was the incumbent of the parish at the time of his death in 1842. The remains of the wife of the present rector, the Rev. J. E. Booth, are also to be found buried here. She died in 1872 at the age of thirty-two. A reredos has been erected to her memory by her husband in the new church at Chorlton.

Here also are the remains of Mr. George Greaves, the well-known surgeon, who, during an operation, had the misfortune to prick his hand, and died of blood poisoning in 1860, at the age of sixty-three years; and of George Bryson Clarke, and his brother Charles, the latter of whom was a well-known cotton spinner, and a magistrate residing at Oakleigh, now the residence of Mr. J. C. Needham. He married the daughter of the Rev. William Birley, a former rector of the parish, and he died in 1870 aged forty-six.

J. T. SLUGG.

A FOREIGN VIEW OF AN ENGLISH AMUSEMENT.
The English colony in Brussels has lately established a football club, and one of the papers gives the following account of a recent match. "The arena was indicated by a row of flags. The ball was solemnly placed between the two camps. A vigorous kick announces the beginning of the game. A number of young men are at once seen rolling on the ground, entangled one with another and bustling each other about. As soon as one of the players, bruised and lacerated, seizes the ball, a mob pursues him—throws him over—buries him beneath a pile of arms and legs and seizes by force the precious prey which the brave fellow presses to his heart. A curious effect is the grave silence during the battle; these young gentlemen are careful not to look as if they were there for play. The frenzied and brutal strife lasted for more than an hour. Many passers-by, noticing the pitiable condition of the players, inquired if there had been an accident. "No; it is only the English amusing themselves."

Saturday, May 15, 1886.

NOTES.

ROMAN ANTIQUITIES FOUND IN MANCHESTER.

[4,282.] An account of an ancient well found in Manchester was lately printed in these columns. The account was taken from the *Gentleman's Magazine*; and perhaps the following account of some Roman antiquities found in this town may be of interest to your readers. It is taken from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for March, 1821. It is as follows:—

Mr. W. R. Whatton, of Manchester, has kindly transmitted to us an account of some relics of antiquity which were recently dug up in that town. As some workmen were sinking a drain in the township of Hulme, within the parish of Manchester, three large blocks of stone were discovered, just within the gravel, about six feet below the surface of the earth. The first (a sketch was given of this one) is about two feet six inches square. On the front is sculptured, in relief, the figure of a man standing upright on his left leg, with the right thrown across it, and the toe pointed downwards. His right arm crosses his body, and resting the elbow upon a pillar or staff, supports on the opposite side the elbow of the left arm, the hand of which supports the head. The whole is surrounded by a raised border or moulding.

The second is a rudely-carved head of large size and coarse features, with the hair turned backwards, standing upon a very short pedestal.

The third is an image in a flowing dress, about two feet and a half high, with the hands crossed and locked before the body. The head of this last was broken, but found afterwards lying close to the other parts.

The first appears to be Roman, for the following reasons:—

(1) They were found on the exact line of the Roman road from Manchester to Chester, and a few hundred yards to the southwards from the station in the Castle-field adjoining.

(2) An altar of the Sixth Legio Victrix, and several coins and pieces of Roman antiquities, have, at various times, been found in the same township and within very short distances around the spot where they were discovered.

(3) They were formed of the dark-brown stone of the neighbourhood, consequently not brought from a distance.

(4) It is known to have been usual for the Romans to erect, without the boundaries of the stations where they were in garrison, votive altars, and centurial and other stones, to the honour of favourite deities and in commemoration of events. As it is without inscription, it is impossible to offer any probable conjecture as to its purport or the intention of the erector. The two others, perhaps, are of a more doubtful kind, and have the appearance rather of the Gothic ornaments of ancient churches than the classic sculpture of a Roman artist.

E. PARTINGTON.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD,
AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

IX.

[4,283.] 3. The Founder himself (concluded). The Writ of Consecration, as given in the copy Sentence quoted-from in my last note, opens with the interesting recital, that "Mr. Humphrey Booth, of Salford in Manchester, in our Diocese of Chester, led by a pious and religious devotion, has, at his own expense, lately built, erected and constructed this Chapel or Oratory, containing, within the walls, thirteen rods in width, eighteen rods in length; in the chancel, eight rods wide, eight and a half long; and with a Church yard containing 148 rods, and has decently and sufficiently fitted the same Chapel with a pulpit, font and table, suited for the Sacred Lord's Supper, with a Bell and convenient seats and other things, necessary for Divine Service, and given and granted for ever an Annual Stipend or Salary of Twenty Pounds of legal English money for the Minister appointed or retained in the Holy Order of Priesthood to serve there."

The Writ expressly reserves "the rights and interests of the Mother Parochial Church of Manchester, in all its ecclesiastical tenths, rights, privileges and advantages," as well as the rights of "our Cathedral Church of Chester"; and grants to "the aforesaid Humphrey Booth, Senr. to the heirs of Robert Booth, eldest son of the said Humphrey Booth, now defunct, and to Humphry Booth, younger son of the other mentioned Humphry, the founder aforesaid, and to their lawful heirs male, begotten, or to be begotten, of their bodies, the power and right of presenting and nominating a friend and other proper persons . . . to serve the same Chapel, when and as often as it shall happen to be vacant, to be canonically admitted and instituted;" and assigns to "the Minister who shall serve in the same . . . the stipend or salary of Twenty pounds, to be paid from time to time for ever." Powers are also reserved to charge pew rents and special service fees for the benefit of the minister. A tribute of 5s. and a "management" fee of 6s. 8d. are made payable to the See. Directions are also given that "there shall be two Stewards or Wardens of the said Chapel, to be chosen annually at the Feast of Easter by the town of Salford aforesaid, according

to the Canons." [The two first Wardens were Humphrey Booth (probably the younger) and George Cranage or Crannidge, a friend of the Founder.]

By Letters Patent, dated the 21st May, 1635, the Bishop granted to "our well beloved in Christ, Adam Byrom, Humphrey Booth sen., Humphrey Booth jun., Robert Pendleton, George Cranage, and Henry Wrigley, of Salford, in the County of Lancaster, gents, or the greater part of them," power to "dispose of and to distribute all and each of the benches or seats within the Chapel . . . among the inhabitants within the Chapelry of the said Salford, according to their condition and quality, provided the men be placed in one part of the Chapel, and the women in the other." These six commissioners appear to have, within six weeks, "conveniently and discreetly distributed and disposed the aforesaid benches or seats"—a distribution which the Bishop formally confirmed on July 3 in the same year. My authority for the foregoing is Mr. Gore-Booth's copy (mentioned in my last note) of the Chapel records—the source of Dr. Gastrell's *Notitia* concerning this chapelry.

The Founder, on the second of July, 1635, executed a voluntary settlement of his lands—a deed of which I have, unfortunately, preserved but few notes. Several trustees were thereby appointed, including a member of the Mosley family. The general effect of the deed was to make the rents of the Founder's landed estates divisible between his two following grandsons during their lives, and afterwards to their respective issue in strict settlement, viz.: the two grandsons (children of his then deceased son Robert), Robert—afterwards the Right Honourable Sir Robert Booth, Knight, Chief Justice in Ireland—and Humphrey, of whom very little is known beyond that he was living in Ireland in 1672, and was then a devisee under the will of his cousin, another Humphrey. Contingent interests were by the settlement in question accorded to another grandson, John (brother of the two foregoing), and to a nephew, George, already mentioned (son of the Founder's brother John), who was then living at Middleton. I hope to be able, before closing this general series of notes, to trace the record of the inq. post mortem of 1636, and therefrom to publish the exact terms of the Founder's settlement of his lands.

The Founder died shortly after the execution of this deed, namely, on the 23rd of July, 1635; and

was, on the 27th of that month, buried in the Collegiate Churchyard. The following is a verbatim copy of the register entry of his burial:—

1635, 27 Julie, Humfrey Boothe of Salforde, Gentleman.

while the following is a copy of the inscription on the Founder's gravestone—a memorial which, as shown below, has a strange history:—

Here Lyeth ~~THE~~ Bodye of Hvmfrey Booth whose Piety lues in Trinity Chappell at Salford ~~HIS~~ being ~~THEIR~~ fovnder and sole liberal endower of His charity in a perpetval. ANNVAL large alowance to the poore of Salford.

~~THESE~~ ~~HE~~ committed not to the fayth of his Executors but finished and perfected them in his lyfe.

He dyed the 23

day of IULY

ANNO Dom

1635

love his memory

imitate his devotion.

Mr. JOHN OWEN, in forwarding me a facsimile of the above, says:—"This inscription of Humfrey's I found in turning over the stone of John Holt. It might seem that the inscription, covering the whole of the stone, left no room for additional entries, and was, therefore, discarded for a new and larger stone. At the head was inscribed 'Humph. Booth, Trinity Chappell, 1635.' The stone seems to have been covered with an inscription which has been mostly obliterated, owing to its position on the west side of the chancel arch [of the Cathedral]. The old stone was removed to the yard, and placed, with the lettering face downwards, and inscribed with obituaries of a family of the name of Holt; the first date being 1723."

The Founder's will was proved first in London, September 18, 1635, and afterwards (16 October following) at Chester, by Humphrey, the son; power being, on each grant, reserved in favour of the latter's co-executor, Nicholas Mosley, of Ancoats Hall, Esquire.

In concluding my special notices of the Founder himself, I may point out that the Founder's name, as well as that of his cousin John (already referred to), occurs several times in the lists of jurors acting on Lancashire Inquisitions Post-mortem, between 1st and 11th James I.—the period covered by the transcript of the Lanc. and Chesh. Record Society—as well as in the General records of the Manchester Court Leet, between 1606 and the date of the Founder's death.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BOLTON TO PRESTON BY ROAD.

(Query No. 4,275, May 8.)

[4,284.] The M. S. on the six-inch Ordnance give the distance as both 18 and 18½ miles. The former much preponderate, but the latter are certain to be the most correct, as milestones constantly omit fractions. The latter distance is probably correct to less than a quarter of a mile. If this is not precise enough, I fear the only plan is to measure it. I do not boast a cyclometer, or should have been glad to do so. I have gone largely into distances in my time, but have long since given up the attempt to ascertain precise distances except by actual measurement, as I find that milestones, guide-posts, road-books, and gazetteers almost invariably differ. Distances are complicated by uncertainty as to where they are taken from. While looking at this map, I noticed a milestone being marked as measured from Bolton Cross.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

CHURCHWARDENS AND SIDESMEN.

(Query No. 4,276, May 8.)

[4,285.] Churchwardens, officers of the Parish Church, appointed by the first canon of the Synod of London in 1127. On their appointment and duties, see Blackstone, book i. ch. 11. 7.

Bishops, in their visitations, summoned credible persons out of every Parish to give an account upon oath of the condition of their Church and Parish. By degrees this care was devolved on the Churchwardens. It is thought that the "Judatores Synodi" came to those meetings (the visitation) to inform the Bishop against those that were delinquents against the law of the Church. Hence our "questmen," who are assistants to the Churchwardens, are called "Side-men"—qu. Synod men.

Presentments are to be made by the Churchwardens and Sidemen (if any be of custom chosen) twice in the year, and oftener if they see occasion; only in places where they present but once that custom shall remain. Fourpence shall be paid for each presentment made by custom. (Canon 116.) If it appear they do willingly omit to present any crime they are to be proceeded against in ecclesiastical courts as perjured persons. (Canon 117.) New wardens when sworn may demand a book of articles whereby to form their presentments. (Canon 119.)

No peer, clergyman, Parliament man, servant to the King in ordinary, lawyer or attorney, physician or surgeon, nor apothecary (by Stat. 6, Wm. 3), teachers or preachers of dissenting congregations (Stat. 1, Wm. and My., c. 6) registered seaman (Stat. 7 8, Wm. 3, c. 21), nor any one who has prosecuted a felon to conviction (Stat. 10 11, Wm. 3, c. 33), can be obliged to execute the office

of Churchwarden. A Churchwarden may prevent any disorder or irreverence in time of Divine Service by whipping boys or taking off the hats of those who would keep them on.—See *Clergyman's Vade Mecum*, Sixth edition, published 1731.

H. M. B.

Stretford.

* * *

Your correspondent "G. T. W." will find some useful information with regard to the origin, duties, and responsibilities of Churchwardens and Sidesmen in an excellent little book entitled *A Church Dictionary*, by Walter Farquhar Hook, D.D., which can be seen at the Reference Library. It gives many particulars connected with the Church generally which are most interesting.

J. B. C.

Moss Side.

COLLYHURST.

(No. 4,270 and others.)

[4,286.] MANCUNIAM wishes to know the present boundary of Collyhurst Common. If he knows anything of the neighbourhood he must be aware that no present boundary can exist, seeing that a highway has been cut through, streets made, and the whole district and its surroundings covered with buildings. But there is no difficulty in ascertaining the situation and extent of the place.

Some time ago a correspondent, who signed his communication "Queen's Park," put the following query. It elicited no reply at the time, and, as what I have to say will answer it, it may be well to repeat it here:—"I should be glad to learn from some of your correspondents the limits or boundaries of Collyhurst. We now speak of it as extending from Ashley Lane to Harpurhey, and from the river Irk to the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway; but I doubt if it be so extensive. I doubt if the Albert Memorial Church be in Collyhurst, for I remember the brook, which is now culverted and covered up, particularly if Queen's Park be in it, as is stated by some."

According to the Ordnance Survey, Collyhurst is bounded as near as the present roads indicate the lines as follows:—The river Irk, Collyhurst Road, Queen's Road, Lamb Lane, Oldham Road, Osborne-street, Rochdale Road, Buckley-street, Birtle-street, and Dalton-street. This includes both the Common and the Clough—through which runs Moss Brook.

According to the Decree concerning Collyhurst the Common was two miles from the town, but *Family Memoirs* says one mile. As the town at this time was clustered round the Market Place the Common must have been that part of Collyhurst nearest the town.

Now if MANCUNIAM will get a map of Manchester and measure eighty acres of the plot I have indicated, lying south-west nearest the town, he will see the situation and extent of the land for which the overseers receive payment.

"Queen's Park" will see that Queen's Park is not in Collyhurst. It is on the tract of land that slopes down and forms Hendham Vale. Albert Memorial Church is in Collyhurst, as Collyhurst Lodge was beyond it at the corner of Emmott-street in Lamb Lane. Moss Brook, which he mentioned, was no dividing line, but ran into the heart of the district. Ashley Lane is not in Collyhurst, the Ordnance map—or indeed any other—showing Newtown between the two.

No wonder there is some trouble in tracing the dividing lines when we contrast the present aspect of the neighbourhood with its appearance some years ago. Mr. Edwin Waugh says:—"The whole of this neighbourhood has been completely changed in appearance since the beginning of the present century. It is now fifty years since I walked along the line of this road from Rochdale on my first visit to Manchester. At that time the country about Collyhurst was all green, with two or three quaint old rustic houses scattered about the scene; the road dipped down to the little old bridge, considerably below the present level; and the deep clough through which ran the river was wild and lonely; and it looked all the more weird because it was the reputed dwelling-place of a noted 'wise-woman,' or fortune-teller, whose fame had reached my native town."

Mr. Charles Ryder owned considerable land at Collyhurst, a plan of which, laid out in plots for building upon, may be seen in the Scrap-book at the Chetham Library. It also contains an engraving of Collyhurst Hall, with the outbuildings, neatly laid out grounds, and lake, which is thus described by Mr. Charles Kenworthy, who lived in the neighbourhood and knew the place:—

Where not a sound breaks on the balmy breeze,
Nor columned smoke beclouds the sky serene,
Stands Collyhurst Hall, amid the rising trees,
From the road-side in rural beauties seen.

The stately front of aspect fair to view—
The winding walk—the garden's rich array—
The open lawn—the shady avenue,
And spreading lake their varied charms display.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,287.] CYCLING ROUTE TO WORKSOP.—Will some reader tell which is the best road from Manchester to Worksop for bicycling, having a regard for any interesting buildings and other objects on the way? H. H.

[4,288.] JAMES JOHNSON AND LITTLEBOROUGH.—In what year did James Johnson build the first house that ever stood in Littleborough, in Lancashire? Where did he reside at the time, in what year did he die, and where did he reside at the time of his death? G. CRAWFORD.

[4,289.] BAXTER LANE.—In St. Anne's register is the following entry:—"Francis, son of Thomas and Margrett Smith, of Baxter Lane, in Manchester, was baptized 28th February, 1737-8." I should be pleased to know where Baxter Lane was, as I cannot find the name in the directory. JOSEPH LEIGH.

THE COCK TAVERN AND IZAAK WALTON'S SHOP. The materials of the historical Cock Tavern, in Fleet-street, London, were sold by auction on Tuesday, and the ancient tavern, which it is stated has remained internally unaltered since the days of James I., will shortly be a thing of the past. The site has been purchased by the Bank of England for their intended new offices in connection with the Royal Courts of Justice and the administration of Chancery funds. Other buildings between Bell Yard and Chancery Lane have also been purchased by the bank authorities, and, among ancient landmarks of past ages, the house where Izaak Walton carried on the business of a hosier and shirtmaker for twenty years has been demolished to clear the site for the bank's new premises.

SAVINGS OF THE PEOPLE.—Notwithstanding the severe depression in trade during the last few years, it is a remarkable fact that the balance to the credit of depositors in the Post Office savings banks has not only not suffered diminution, but has considerably outstripped the standard of prosperous years. In 1881, which may be taken as the most successful year which the commercial world has experienced for some time, the balance to the credit of depositors was £36,194,496. It might safely have been predicted that, with the decline in business and the consequent scarcity of employment since then, this balance would have shown some considerable shrinkage. Such, however, has not been the case. Indeed, since 1881, the amount to the credit of depositors has increased to a greater extent than it has done in any period of five years since the establishment of the Post Office banks. In 1882 it was £39,037,821; in 1883, £41,768,808; in 1884, £44,773,773; and in 1885, £47,697,838. Taking both Post Office and Trustees' Banks, there was to the credit of depositors a sum of about £100,000,000.

Saturday, May 22, 1886.

NOTES.

A SADDLEWORTH YEOMAN'S HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY OF 1717.

[4,290.] Turning over some family papers I find the following copy of an Inventory of the personal estate of the year 1717. It is interesting as showing the surroundings of the homes of our yeoman forefathers of the reign of Queen Anne and the First George, and the values of the period. The deceased was of Saddleworth, on the borders of this county, and a man of substance. He made up five beds; he equipped a soldier (note the "red cloth"). I should judge he bred his hunters for sale and his mutton for his own table. His "scins" were for sale after his family had spun and woven the wool for private use (note the "loomes"). He fed off pewter, and his servants off wooden trenchers. Can any of your readers say if such articles as I have put in italics are still in use and known by these names? There was no Succession Duty payable upon real estate in those days, only upon the "Goods, Chattels, and Cattel," which was "taken vallewed and prised" by a jury of neighbours. JOHN E. LEES.

Stretford.

(The word "Item" preceding each entry is here omitted.)

	£	s.	d.
In purs and apparell.....	04	10	00
Three mares, £10; two hunters, £4	14	00	00
Five yeare oulds.....	05	10	00
Five cows and two calfs	17	10	00
A cart and wheels	03	00	00
An arke or garner	01	05	00
Eight sheep at	01	12	00
<i>Jelides Trindles</i> spads and rakes.....	00	13	06
In the dwellinghouse and cupboard	01	10	00
A clock and case at	01	10	00
In pewter.....	01	05	00
Six yards cloth lin yarn and a dial	01	09	00
A <i>coch cheer</i> ; two <i>seeld cheers</i>	00	14	00
Four cheers and kuishens and six stools	00	05	00
Bords in house kest and <i>salt pie</i>	00	05	06
Fire iron, bred iron, <i>Racon bill</i> , Lantorn, and books.....	00	19	00
A chest and bacon.....	00	17	06
In parlor:—			
An arke and meall	02	03	00
A bedsted and bedding	01	01	06
Butery and kitchen in iron and bras and other goods.....	01	04	06
Five sacks and fifteen strike corn.....	00	12	06
In red cloth for soldier.....	00	18	00
Plows and irons harrows, <i>wain coppearn</i> , and cart	01	10	00
An arke in ye barn. Sheep scins and <i>weys att</i> Treases halters <i>barks</i> halms.....	00	09	00
	00	13	00

In sadles	00 08 00
In yokes teams and wheelbarrows	00 09 00
A per <i>prinypous</i> three pitchforks	00 07 00
In siths sickls <i>wayving wals</i>	00 06 06
Four wheels at	00 07 06
A crow matak spad axes <i>nogers</i> and saws.....	00 12 06
Dying lead at	02 00 00
Chees press and falls.....	00 13 00
Wood ware in kitchen a chest a <i>Trest</i> and Trenchers.....	01 09 00
A table 13/- in linen 15/-	01 08 00
Firkon in new house.....	00 15 00
Stand bedsted in kitchen chamber	01 05 00
New chamber; Stand bed and beding.....	02 06 00
Three cofers and a box.....	01 07 00
Four back stools and fire irons	00 19 00
Loomes <i>slay healds</i> stanes combs and a chest...	02 00 00
Od iron slat lime and all od hushment	00 19 00
One chest a bed and beding	01 05 00
Chamber over hous: a bed and beding	00 12 6

Sum total.....£84 16 0

MANCHESTER STREET-LORE:

IX. GARDEN-STREET, BACK GARDEN-STREET, WELL-STREET, AND "COLDHOUSE."

[4,291.] Garden-street, Withy Grove, is one of the oldest of the streets of what I would call new or modern Manchester. It has had, I believe, a very interesting history as a shelter for "respectability"; but the object of these notes is to record (from old title deeds) simply the date of formation and the origin of the name of each old street with which I deal.

A deed of Release (freeing the land therein comprised from its chief rent, hereafter mentioned), dated the 19th July, 1721, made between "Joseph Bancroft, of Manchester . . . merchant, on the one part, and William Whalley, of Middleton . . . joiner, on the other part, and epitomized in an old Abstract of Title (dating from the first decade of the present century)," contains the following interesting recital:—That the said Joseph Bancroft, and one Thomas Lowe, of Manchester, whitesmith, had by Indontures of Lease and Release, dated respectively the 19th and 20th May previously (the latter deed made between "the said Joseph Bancroft on the first part, the said Thomas Lowe on the second part, and the said William Whalley on the third part") granted to the said William Whalley, in fee simple—subject to the perpetual yearly rent of £6. 7s. 5½d.—certain plots of lands thus described:—

(1) "All that . . . Parcel of . . . Ground, containing 2,682 yards, or thereabouts, being Part of a Field, Close, or Parcel of Land called the Cold A—Meadow [whence "Coldhouse"] situate . . . in Manchester aforesaid, on the northerly

side of the King's Highway or Street, leading from the Place, there called the Within Greave [Withy Grove] to the Place, also there called the Sude hill [Shudehill] as the same . . . Parcel of the said Close or Field (being in or part of the northerly Part thereof) then was marked and set out; bounded, on the Northerly Side thereof, by a Close called the Croft, belonging unto and in the possession of John Evans, Dyer; on the Easterly side thereof, by an orchard, belonging unto or in the possession of Margaret Yates, Widow and Relict of Joseph Yates, Esquire; on the easterly end of the southerly side thereof, by a line, to be drawn from the said orchard, 17 yards westwards to the easterly End of another Parcel of the said Close, intended to be left open for a street ['Well-street'] of five yards broad, leading towards the westerly side of the said Close, and, from the End of the said seventeen yards, five Foot and four Inches northwards, and, from thence, on the residue of the said Southerly side, by the said intended street; And, on the Westerly side or end thereof, by another Parcel of the said Close, intended for another street, of five yards broad, and intended to be called by the name of *Garden Street*, lying on the Easterly side of certain gardens, theretofore inclosed and severed from the said Close by the late Samuel Thorpe, Gentleman, deceased."

(2) "All that other part of the said close, containing 245 yards, or thereabouts, as the same was then set out or marked, lying northwards of or from the then new-erected House and Buildings of James Whitaker, Butcher, and severed therefrom by another Part of the said Close, intended to be left open for another way ['Back-street' or 'Back Garden-street'] of four yards Broad, and to lead eastwards, from the said *Garden Street*, towards the Dwellinghouse of the said Margaret Yates, And to extend to twenty yards short of the Garden [hence the names of the two last mentioned streets] belonging to the same House; the same granted Parcel being in Length, towards the same Street, about twenty yards and six Inches; on the Westerly side, adjoining to the said *Garden Street*, about sixteen Yards, two Foot, and five Inches; On the Northerly side, adjoining to another Parcel of the said Close, then intended to be conveyed by the said Joseph Bancroft and William Whalley to the said Thomas Lowe and his Heirs, eleven yards, two foot, and two inches; And on the Easterly side, adjoining to the said Parcel then intended to be conveyed by the said Joseph Bancroft and William Whalley unto the said Thomas Lowe as aforesaid, fifteen yards, two foot, and six Inches, or thereabouts,"

(3) "All that other Part of the said Close, containing 166 yards or thereabouts, as the same was also marked or set out; Bounded on the Southerly side by the said King's Highway; on the Westerly side by the said House and Buildings of the said James Whitaker; on the Northerly side by the said Street, intended to lead from the said *Garden Street* towards the said House of the said Margaret Yates; and on the Easterly Side by another Part of the said Close, then likewise conveyed, or intended to be conveyed, by the said Joseph Bancroft and William

Whalley to the said Thomas Lowe, and containing' on the South End or Side, eleven yards and ten Inches, and, on the Northerly End or Side, eleven Foot and eight inches."

(4). "Together with . . . free liberty . . . for the said William Whalley, his Heirs and Assigns, to go, come, Pass, and repass, on Foot and with Horses, Carts and Carriages, at Pleasure in, by, and through the said intended ways or Streets, without any Let, Hindrance, or Interruption."

Within a short time, after the date of these deeds, Garden-street was, it appears, duly formed, and soon became a busy thoroughfare; Back Garden-street and Well-street (the latter so named probably on account of its originally leading to a "well" on the estate) being about the same time converted into "scenes of habitation and intercourse of mankind." (In a deed, dated October 11, 1735, certain land is described as on the east side of "a certain Street, Lane or Alley, called the Garden Street.")

With regard to "Coldhouse;" this once well-known place (a street, or group of courts, not a thoroughfare) appears to have been established by the building operations of the William Whalley mentioned above; who, by his will, dated the 22nd August, 1730, devised one of his houses (afterwards part of "Coldhouse"), in the meadow before named, viz., the one "which stood towards the south," to his eldest son, William, in fee simple, and the other of his houses, in the same place, to his son, Thomas; the remainder of his land being given to his executors (his wife, Ann, and his said two sons), upon trust for sale. In indentures of Lease and Release, dated respectively the 27th and 28th March, 1780, is the first reference, I have met with, to the name "Coldhouse"—the latter of these deeds was, it is interesting to record, made between John Wyke, of Liverpool, watchmaker, John Cresswell, of Manchester, corn factor, and James Upjohn of Clerkenwell, London, watchmaker, of the first part; Samuel Whalley, of Manchester, watchmaker, his wife, and Mary Whalley, of Manchester, "widow

and relict of the said Samuel Whalley, the father," of the second part; and John Ryder, of Blackley, "Whitster," of the third part—though, even then, the name "Coldhouse" does not seem to have been the commonly used one, but a subordinate one to the older name (that of the Meadow first described). In the Will, dated the 18th of February, 1782, of this John Ryder, is mentioned his "more northerly

messuage or dwelling-house, with its appurtenances, in Coldhouse," as in the occupation of his son-in-law, Samuel Rothwell (husband of the testator's daughter, Hannah), and is also mentioned his "more southerly messuage or dwelling-house," in the occupation of his son-in-law, Richard Andrew, husband of the testator's daughter, Mary.

"Coldhouse" has been merged and lost in the modern "Dantzic-street," and by one or two of the small (re-named) courts leading out of that now important thoroughfare. The residential glories of the other three old streets have long since departed.

In "Coldhouse" there formerly stood, fronting "Thornily-Brow" (a place-name still preserved) a Meeting-house, popularly and widely known as "Coldhouse Chapel," which, dating from the middle of last century, was the first Baptist place of worship in Manchester, and one of the oldest "conventicles" in the district. By the way, has the history of this interesting chapel ever been written?

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ROMAN ANTIQUITIES IN MANCHESTER.

(Note No. 4,278, May 15.)

[4,292.] Attention having again been drawn to these relics, it may not be out of place to remind your readers that the venerable remains themselves are still to be seen in Peel Park, though not, as might be expected, in the Museum, but down by the side of one of the paths leading to the ornamental water, where a weekly increasing record of scars and scratches betokens the unremitting attention which these sculptured memorials of the Past receive at the hands, or rather at the feet, of the inquiring youth of the neighbourhood. Cannot our local Antiquarian Society do something for their preservation? Manchester is not rich in Roman antiquities, but that can hardly be considered a good reason for totally neglecting the few that remain to us. Mention has also been made recently in your columns of an ancient well discovered in Castle Field about 1830. There is an interesting sketch of this well in the Jesse Lee copy of Baines's *Lancashire*, vol. ii., page 150, now located in our Reference Library in King-street.

R.

CYCLING ROUTE TO WORKSOP.

(Query No. 4,283, May 15.)

[4,293.] The best route is by Mottram, 11½; Woodhead, 18½; Sheffield, 40½; and Worksop, 58½ miles. It is a miserable ride to Hyde, then uphill to Mottram, undulating to Woodhead, with fine views of the Manchester Waterworks; then a tremendous climb, and when the top is gained a fine run down, under the Wharncliffe woods, to Sheffield; and then a bumpy road on to Worksop. There is another route to Sheffield of about the same length, which leaves the road given just past Mottram, and goes by Glossop and the Snake and Ashopton inns. But it is a much harder ride than the other, the hill above Glossop being of great length; but of course the scenery is superior, as it goes just under the Peak and down the lovely Ashop dale.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

* * *

The best way of getting to Worksop by road and from a Cyclist's point of view is through Sheffield. From Manchester there are three direct roads to Sheffield, all of which are rough and heavy for cycling. Two of these proceed via Hyde and Mottram. Just beyond the latter place there is a fork in the road, the left hand road proceeding past the reservoirs, over Woodhead, through Langsett Deep Car (for Wharncliffe), and Oughtybridge. From Langsett the road is fairly good. The hills disappear, and the scenery becomes interesting. The right hand road proceeds through Glossop, past the celebrated Snake Inn, and through Ashopton. There is a heavy ascent out of Glossop for about four miles, and the road is practically unrideable to the Snake Inn (six miles from Glossop), as the descent to that place is very steep and the surface rough. The third route to Sheffield is through Chapel-en-le-Frith, Castleton, and Hathersage. On the whole I prefer the Woodhead route for cycling as being the easiest and most interesting. From Sheffield the Worksop road leads through Attercliffe and Aston, distance about sixteen miles. The road is stony in places, but there is a good side track. From Worksop there is a grand ride through Clumber Park, West Drayton, and Downham, to Lincoln, about thirty miles.

J. CHAPMAN.

Greenheys.

QUERIES.

[4,294.] A LIFE OF SHAKSPERE.—Which is the best? I have three sketches, i.e. by Morley, Arnold, and Rossetti, and in each the writer appears to be full of doubt. Certainly, it is hopeless to think of attaining a reliable knowledge of the great Poet and his doings during the fifty-two years of his life from such a supply.

C. T. B.

[4,295.] THE BRIDGEWATER CANAL.—I should be obliged if some correspondent would furnish me with the titles of any books giving information about the above undertaking. Are there any books or pamphlets existent giving a list of contractors who were employed or in any way connected with the work?

W. ASHETON TONGE.

[4,296.] OLD LANCASHIRE SONG.—Can any reader supply me with a copy of an old song in which occur these lines:—

He'll get thee by th' leg, an' he'll gi' thi a twell,
So Boney, owd creetur, look after thi sel.

The song was often sung by Crowther, the blind organist of Rochdale, and is probably one of the many imitations of the famous Jone o' Grinfelt.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

DEAN SWIFT ON CONVERSATION.—The first essential in conversation is truth; the next, good sense; the third, good humour; the fourth, wit. ~~consequence~~

THE SPHINX.—M. Maspero reports from Boulak that good progress is being made in the excavations around the Sphinx of Gizeh. "The face," he says, "raised 15 metres above the surface, is becoming expressive, in spite of the loss of the nose. The expression is serene and calm. The breast has been a good deal injured, but the paws are almost intact. The work now going on is in beds of sand which have not been disturbed since the first century of our era."

MEANING OF INDIAN NAMES.—Mrs. Zerviah G. Mitchell, born in 1807, and said to be the last Massachusetts Indian of full blood, writes to the *Boston Journal* to explain the following Indian names:—Dakota means "united," the word for "tribes" being dropped. Michigan means Elk Eye. Ohio means beautiful. Minnesota means water-turbid. Sioux means enemy in the Dakota language, and was never used by the Indians we so name. Kentucky means "head of the river." Nebraska means "flat." Kansas means "smoky." Illinois is a corruption of a word meaning "mankind." Missouri means "great muddy," with "river" dropped.

Saturday, May 29, 1886.

NOTES.

THE HEYRICKS OF MANCHESTER.

[4,297.] In my collection of old local MSS. is a Bond, given on the 13th September, 1676, by John Oldfield, of Manchester, mercer, in favour of Thomas Heyrick, of the same place, gentleman, for the penal sum of £4, to secure the payment to the latter of "the full and just summe of ffourty shillings," "Att and upon the day of the solempnisacon of Matrymony of the said John Oldfeild, or att or upon the day of the death of the said John Oldfeild, or which of the said dayes shall first happen." The witnesses to the deed are "Alexander Dauie [Davie], Junier," "Edward Greene," and John Pearson.

It would be interesting to collect in this column all the available records concerning every member, settled in Manchester, of the Herrick or Heyrick family—a family of which our learned and worthy Warden, Richard Heyrick, B.D., was such a distinguished member, as was his (first) cousin, the poet Robert Herrick, "the sweetist of the lyristes who sang in the seventeenth century." The above deed-note is my contribution to such a collection.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE BRIDGEWATER CANAL.

(Query No. 4,291, May 22.)

[4,298.] There are two works in the Free Reference Library dealing with the Bridgewater Canal;—

History of the Bridgewater Canal. 8vo. 1766.

Sharp's Account of the Bridgewater Canal. 8vo. 1774.

The late James Crossley had in his library the following work concerning the subject:—

The History of Inland Navigation, particularly that of the Duke of Bridgewater's Plan. 1779.

In addition he had the following Acts, two of which were in MSS.:—

An Act to enable the most noble Francis Duke of Bridgewater to make a navigable canal or cut from a certain place in Salford to Worsley Mill and Hollin Ferry. (32 Geo. ii.)

Ditto from Worsley Mill to the Town of Manchester and to or near Longford Bridge. (33 Geo. ii.)

Ditto from Longford Bridge in the Township of Stretford to the River Mersey at Hempstones in the Township of Hulton. (2 Geo. iii.)

Ditto from Worsley to the Township of Pennington, near Leigh. (35 Geo. iii.)

Several authors have written lives of the Duke of Bridgewater, which give some information about the Canal. The best is the one by Mr. Espinasse.

E. PARTINGTON.

The Hornbeam. Rusholme.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: GARDEN-STREET AND COLDHOUSE.

(Note No. 4,287, May 22.)

[4,299.] Allow me to supplement Mr. TALLENT-BATEMAN's interesting note by stating that Garden-street was the first home of the Manchester Royal Infirmary. Through the generosity of Mr. Joseph Bancroft, a successful merchant, a house was opened here June 24, 1752, Mr. Charles White being the first surgeon. The place was soon too small for the rapidly increasing demands made upon it, and the Piccadilly site was fixed upon for a new building. Land was purchased from the Lord of the Manor and the new building erected at a cost of four thousand pounds. The first stone was laid by Mr. James Massey, May 20, 1754. In the following year the new premises were opened. In the meantime Mr. Bancroft had died, and was buried May 29, 1753, in the Collegiate Church.

Coldhouse Chapel, as I have before stated in these columns, is still in existence, and continues to be used as a Baptist meeting-house. JOHN MILLOR, Ashley Lane.

A SADDLEWORTH YEOMAN'S HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN 1717.

(Note No. 4,286, May 22.)

[4,300.] Some of the curiously spelt words in the Saddleworth yeoman's inventory are explainable. Thus:—

"Bark halms" is obviously Barkham, a Cliviger word for a horse collar. Another Lancashire form of the word is Bariham. Anglo-Saxon "beorgan," to protect, and English "hames;" thus, a protection against the hames.

"Coch cheer" will be a couch chair.

"Racon bill" is probably a rackan-hook or reckan-hook, a hook placed in the chimney so that it can be swung over the fire, and used to hold a pot or kettle.

"Slay healds." A "slay" is the old term for the hand-board of a loom.

"Trest," a strong bench, or a butcher's block.

"Weys" may possibly be "weighs," a Lancashire dialectal word for a pair of scales.

"Trindle," is the wheel of a barrow, but "jelides" I can make nothing of. "Salt pie" will perhaps be

a misreading of the manuscript for "salt pin." A "seeld cheer" may possibly be a rocking chair, "seel" being a word formerly applied to a ship when she rocked about; but this must be taken as simply a guess.
J. H. N.

Possibly "coch cheer" means a couch chair, and "seeld cheer" a chair with a ceiling canopy or roof over it.

"Salt pie," a salt box or pyx.

"Racon bill," a hook attached to chain which hung in the chimney for the purpose of suspending the cooking-pot or cauldron. Such article is termed a "reckon cruik" to this day in some of the northern counties.

"Wain coppearn," waggon couplings.

"Treases," traces, the harness of draught animals.

"Wayving wals," weaving sticks or wands.

"Nogers," knockers, i.e., hammers.

"A Trest," a trestle, or frame to support anything on.

"Slay Healds," slain or used-up healds.

With great deference I submit the above. I do not think it follows that the owner of the goods "equipped a soldier" because of the mention of "red cloth." More likely he wove the cloth and gave it its sanguine hue for purposes of sale.

DUNELM.

London.

QUERIES.

[4,301.] **LEVER-STREET.**—When was Lever-street, Piccadilly, Manchester, so named, and by whom?
J. L.

[4,302.] **THE TRESPASS OF FOWLS.**—What is the exact state of the law as regards the trespass of hens?
H. M. C.

[4,303.] **THE ARDWICK GREEN STUMPS.**—How long is it since the white stumps and chains were removed from around Ardwick Green? It must be, I fancy, some thirty-five or forty years ago. I should be pleased to know the precise date of the removal.
J. A.

[4,304.] **ELIJAH RIDINGS.**—I should be glad to have some information relating to Elijah Ridings, who took a prominent part in the Chartist agitation, and was somewhat of a poet; and also to know to what public institution his portrait would be acceptable as a gift.
N. H. H.

Saturday, June 5, 1886.

NOTES.

MANCHESTER MEN AND THE SCOTCH REBELS OF 1745.

[4,305.] In Mr. TALLENT-BATEMAN's abstracts of the old deeds relating to the Cold House, Shudehill (Note No. 4,287), mention is made of one Thomas Lowe, of Manchester, whitesmith. I find the said Thomas Lowe was married at the Collegiate Church, January 6, 1708, and he had a son Alexander, bap. Oct. 16, 1709; he married a Margaret Rigby in 1730, and when the Scotch rebels reached Manchester in 1745 he appears to have joined them, as his name occurs in the list of prisoners taken at Carlisle. He perhaps only suffered a short imprisonment, for he returned to Manchester, and I found his gravestone lying at the west end of the Cathedral yard: "Here Lyeth the Body of Alexander Loe, Whitesmith, bur. Nov. 16, 1751. Aged 42." The stone has since disappeared. Descendants of the family are still to be found in Manchester.

Having referred to the Scotch rebels I may mention that a friend of mine, Mr. Thomas Brettargh, of Hazel Grove, a descendant of the old family of Bretargh Holt, near Liverpool, possesses a letter, dated, if I remember rightly, 1771, received by the family from their relative the William Brettargh, then of Jamaica, who had been transported to the colonies for joining the rebels, having been made an ensign.
J. OWEN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BUCKSTONE BRIGANDS.

(Query No. 4,194, February 20.)

[4,306.] If DR FORESTA will oblige me with a call, I shall be glad to lend him a copy of *Report of the Trial of the Luddites in 1811-12-13.*
J. A. EASTWOOD.

49, Princess-street.

BRIDGEWATER CANAL.

(Nos. 4,291 and 4,294.)

[4,307.] Somewhere about 1788 there was written *A Description of the Town of Manchester*. In this will be found some particulars respecting the making of the Bridgewater Canal. The author also quotes from "our provincial poet," and says: "There are some marginal notes in prose annexed to this poem, containing such remarks as may give an idea to

strangers of the progress made in this navigation, and the difficulties arising in the course of its execution, with the means whereby they were happily surmounted."

FRED LEARY.

LEVER-STREET.

(Query No. 4,297, May 29.)

[4,308.] That portion of Piccadilly which runs from Mosley-street to Portland-street was formerly called Lever's Row, and opposite the Infirmary were Sir Ashton Lever's fields. There can be little doubt that Lever-street derived its name from this family.

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield-street.

* * *

Lever-street has been so known from the early part of last century when buildings first appeared on the spot, though formerly the adjective Great used to be applied to it. The name would come naturally from the owner of the land. If "J. L." will refer to the map of Manchester and Salford for 1650, he will see at the top of Market Stead Lane nothing but fields, excepting one house where the White Bear Hotel now stands. It is marked Mr. Lever's house and had been in possession of the family for nearly forty years. John Hunt, of Manchester, demised by indenture, dated May 26, 1612, to Robert Lever of Darcy Lever, clothier, a messuage with the appurtenances and the closes of land lying in or near Market Stead Lane, called the Great Meadow, the Brick-kiln Meadow, the Kiln Field, and the House Field, containing about ten acres of land, in consideration of £120 and a yearly rent of twenty shillings for a term of twenty-one years. Some time after the said John Hunt demised the said premises to the said Robert Lever for the term of one hundred years from Christmas, 1632, at the yearly rent of ten shillings.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

ELIJAH RIDINGS.

(Query No. 4,300, May 29.)

[4,309.] If "N. H. H." will obtain a copy of *The Village Muse*, printed by Stubbs, Macclesfield (a copy of which no doubt can be seen in the Free Library), all that is desired to be known about the weaver, the bellman, and the bookseller poet may be known. Elijah Ridings was one of the little band known as the Lancashire poets; he was born in 1802 at Fails-worth, near Manchester; he became a silk weaver, a lover of books, and an ardent Radical; and with considerable success he learned to write poetry. When quite a young man he lectured in small Mechanics'

Institutes on English Literature, but with no great success; and then he was engaged in school teaching, for which he had fitted himself by his own efforts. The school which he had formed unfortunately was destroyed by the action of the cholera in 1832. In the same year he married and entered upon a public-house—a very unpoetical proceeding! He continued a publican for three years, and then honourably discharged all liabilities to his last shilling. His subsequent years were spent in a battle with poverty—poverty often worsting him, but certainly never checking an enviable exuberance of spirits. He might then have been seen with a book-stall in Shudehill, the paucity of books intimating the low ebb of his finances, but ever cheerful if he could induce anyone to talk about books. His next venture was to constitute himself the Manchester bellman, with a gold band round his hat and a bright new bell. His performances in this direction mightily amused the youngsters at street corners; but the absurdity of one man thinking he could inform the inhabitants of a town like Manchester of the fact of a dog being "lost, stolen, or strayed away," soon brought poor Ridings's scheme to nought. His latest years were spent in an endeavour to make a living out of what he called his "Muse;" and he carried a blue bag in which he had copies of his collected poems, which, it was suspected, were often bought not for their intrinsic merits, but as a discreet way of affording the poet a little monetary aid without the appearance of bestowing money in the objectionable form of charity. His last days were passed in much privation. A note in the *City News* called attention to the fact of the poet being about to apply for parish relief, which, possibly, brought some material aid to the old man, who starved on his "Muse."

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

A SADDLEWORTH YEOMAN'S HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

(Nos. 4,286 and 4,296.)

[4,310.] There are some slight inaccuracies in the two notes (4,296) giving the meanings of the now nearly obsolete terms italicized in Mr. LEE's Note (4,286).

"Barks" are, literally, horse collars.

"Halms" are the iron bars, or rather blades, which fit into a groove in front of the collar. They are connected with a short chain on the under-side of the collar, and firmly bound with a strap at the top. Carters and ostlers take them off before the collar

when unharnessing. In Russian wain harnesses the hames project considerably above the top of the collar, and have a cross-bar at the ends. (A.S. Ham—a shoulder.)

“Jelides,” probably “lick-tubs,” as they are now called; small wooden vessels used to serve cattle with grain. (A.S. Gellet—a large cup.)

“Slay” (A.S., Slæ), the “reed” fixed in the slay-boards of a loom. The warp is threaded through it (“taken-in” is the vernacular for the process), and its purpose is to drive up the weft into the “shed.”

“Healds” are the strings of many-folded linen yarn, knitted upon laths, and have knotted loop-holes in the middle through each of which only one thread of the warp passes. The healds are connected with the “treddles” by cords, and form the “shed” in the warp through which the weft is cast. (A.S. Haldan—to hold.)

“Waincoppearn,” a portable wooden frame fixed round the top of a wain, or waggon, when carting hay or corn from the harvest field. (A.S. Copp=head, top.)

“Noger” is meant for “augur,” a carpenter’s boring tool, and is a word in common use in the Yorkshire dialect.

“Prinnpows,” pointed poles, now called “carrying-stangs,” used for carrying hay by hand from the harvest field to the barn. (A.S. Princ—a point.)

“Treases,” the connecting chains, straps, or ropes, which lead from the ames to the wain, with which the wain is drawn.

“Salt-pie,” a salt-box with a sloping lid, generally hung against the wall near the hearth-place to keep the salt dry, and for convenience when cooking.

Jelides, waincoppearn, and prinnpows are, I believe, now quite obsolete.

“Wayving wals” is the wooden frame in which the slay-boards are fixed, and is hung on pivots on the top of each side of the loom.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw.

QUERIES.

[4,311.] BETHEL’S BROADSHEET.—Can any of your readers give me any information about Bethel’s Broadsheet, published about 1830? C. G.

[4,312.] BRADSHAW HALL.—Can any reader kindly furnish a little information respecting Bradshaw Hall, situated, I think, somewhere in the neighbourhood of Shudehill. T. NORRIS.

[4,313.] MARTON HALL.—I should feel obliged if any reader could inform me the names of the occupiers of Marton Hall, near Congleton, during the years 1750 to 1770. HENRY KAY.

[4,314.] THE RADICAL PEPPER BOXES.—About fifty years ago there appear to have been some buildings in King-street called “The Radical Pepper Boxes.” Where were they situated, and how did they obtain the name? J. R.

[4,315.] KNOWL OR KNOLL.—Which is the correct spelling of this word? It is in common use throughout Lancashire and Derbyshire. There is Knowl Wood near Bury, and there is Eaves Knowl at New Mills, in Derbyshire. Miss Martineau called her residence near Ambleside, The Knoll. J. C.

[4,316.] CYCLING ROUTE IN NORTH WALES.—I should be indebted to any reader who would give the best cycling route through the undermentioned places, together with the mileage from place to place and the objects of interest along the route:—Chester to Bettws-y-Coed passing through Rhyl and Colwyn Bay, and back to Chester through Corwen, Llangollen, and Wrexham. Also, how many miles extra a detour from Bettws-y-Coed to Lake Bala (thence to Corwen) would entail. M. M. M.

[4,317.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Will some one kindly say who is the author of the following lines? J. W.

There is in this loud stunning tide
Of human care and crime,
With whom the melodies abide
Of the everlasting chime;
Who carry music in the heart
Through dusky lane and wrangling mart,
Plying their daily task with busier feet.
Because their secret souls a holy strain repeat.

[4,318.] QUEEN ELIZABETH AND LANCASHIRE. In a North Lancashire guide-book, published between forty and fifty years ago, I find it stated (in reference to the picturesqueness of Lunesdale):—“A short walk brings the tourist to the Penny Bridge, at Caton, where the river forms the bend called the Crook of Lune. The view from this spot was declared by Queen Elizabeth, in one of her royal progresses, to be one of the finest in her dominions.” There is a “Queen’s Brow,” or a “Queen’s Road,” or both, in the district in question. In the accounts of Queen Elizabeth’s progresses which I have read I have not found any reference to her presence in Lunesdale or in any other part of Lancashire. I shall be glad to learn whether there is any truth in what the guide-book says on this point. W. H.

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE LATE CANON BARDSLEY.

The removal by death of Canon Bardsley calls into notice the history of a life of more than ordinary interest. In the cause of the Church he did more than yeoman's service. At a time when the Establishment was really in danger, both from without and within, he leapt from the ranks, and did not he use his "owler?" Those who knew him in his palmy days will never forget. An Oldhamer bred and born, he displayed all the points of his Anglo-Saxon blood—pluck, go, perseverance, indomitable energy. Descended from a family which no doubt took its name from its ancient seat, Bardsley, his branch settled near Greenacres long before the male line of the original house died out two centuries ago. The Canon's father and mother, Joseph and Lydia, were in but humble circumstances when he was born. It might be said of them, however, that their seed was "mighty upon earth." And if they had but little of this world's gear, "riches and plenteousness were in their house." Few families have shown in a higher degree the kind of stuff that Lancashire is made of. The Canon not only had to climb the ladder of fortune for himself but he pulled his brothers and sisters after him—Samuel, now rector of Finchley, Middlesex; Joseph, rector of Bradford, now doctor and canon, whose praise is in all the churches; Mary, Ann, and Sarah, Mary being the mother of three clergymen—the Rev. Robert Mayall, vicar of Over Darwen, the Rev. Charles Mayall now deceased, and the Rev. Samuel Mayall, a clergyman in the south of England. Ann and Sarah now deceased were enabled to become successful schoolmistresses.

The political crisis of 1832 called Mr. James Bardsley into notoriety. The politicians of that day were mild as compared with the advanced position of to-day. Self-culture had enabled him to make speeches which were always worth hearing. He and his friends held meetings in each other's houses weekly or oftener after mill hours, which at that time lasted till nearly eight o'clock at night. They had a kind of book club among them, contributing so much per week and buying new books as they could afford. The contents of these books being mastered the members would meet to discuss them. It was by such scant means as these that Canon Bardsley built up his education. I remember meeting an old man who was a member of the club some years ago, and who described to me some of its members when for the most part they met at the house of old John Heywood, of Lees. He said there was never a more earnest searcher after truth than James Bardsley. Dight in fustian and "owler," he never missed an opportunity of being present at those meetings, and woe betide the man who durst attempt to break a lance with him on any

subject that he had studied. He was a "rover" by trade, employed at Spring Mill, Waterhead, for Mr. Joseph Wrigley, before the invention of Yankees, or roving frames, as we know them; and as he followed his jenny he would rest his book on the carriage boards and commit to his extraordinary memory snatches of its contents as the jenny went in and out. John Andrew, grandfather of Dr. Andrew, of Glossop, was his fellow-workman at this jenny; and besides the help of his parents, Andrew's help and influence did much towards building up James Bardsley in knowledge and faith. For a working-man John Andrew had a famous library always open to Bardsley's use. Moreover Andrew was a devout Wesleyan, and their mutual intercourse on literature and religion greatly strengthened Bardsley's convictions. Perhaps no better preparation could have been desired for the work James Bardsley had to do.

He came out of the factory as a vessel "fit for the Master's use." He had unbounded confidence in the efficacy of prayer. Before he had any prospect of means to enable him to become a clergyman, he is said to have gone abroad in the fields and to have prayed aloud that some means would be raised up for helping him to become a clergyman. On one of these praying excursions he was observed and overheard by a gentleman of some means, who was so struck that it is said he at once went to his wife, and they two found money for completing Mr. Bardsley's education. Not only so, but this gentleman and his wife had the honour afterwards of becoming Mr. Bardsley's father and mother-in-law. Mr. Bardsley's parents, and, indeed, all the family were lovingly attached to Hey Chapel. At that time there was a Sunday school at Top of Moor, and Mr. Bardsley and his family rendered great assistance there both as teachers and singers.

When Mr. Bardsley had buckled on his full armour as a minister of the Church of England he was not long in making himself felt as a power in Lancashire. The Church was in anything but good repute when he entered it. It had suffered through careless ministers, and its principles were but imperfectly understood by the general populace. Mr. Bardsley was the man to set matters right, and this could only be done by means of the platform, and it was therefore chiefly on the platform that Mr. Bardsley shone. When he had a great cause to defend he seemed as one possessed, almost torn, with his subject, until he had exorcised it from his own mind and driven it into the minds of his hearers. The facial expressions, the pointed finger or sometimes finger and thumb, the general pose of the body while speaking, all betokened a man dreadfully in earnest. Indeed, he always looked like a man of war, and as he delivered himself his arguments reminded one of Virgil's description:

The thunder of his mighty shield,
The lightning of his lance.

PHILANDER.

Saturday, June 12, 1886.

NOTES.

THE LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.

[4,319.] We have received from Mehrali, Tangi, a copy of No. 9 of *The Lancashire Lad*, dated the first of May, 1886. It is a small quarto sheet, price two annas, printed for the proprietors at Lahore, edited by Sergeant J. Wilson, of the F Company, First North Lancashire Regiment, and devoted to the affairs of that regiment. The contents comprise reports of cricket matches, wrestling in Lancashire style, and other sports, information connected with the movements of the regiments, promotions, good conduct badges, and other military matters, and the first of a series of "Lancashire Sketches," a clever little story, the dialogue portion of which is in the dialect. Amongst the editorial notes is the following:—

"In the *Manchester City News* for February 27, 1886, we find the following query, signed 'Isabella Banks':—

In the Army List for 1810 I find the Lancashire Regiment of Foot was the Forty-seventh. Was this formed after the Seventy-second (Volunteers) was disbanded?

In answer to the above we beg to refer our contemporary to 'The Records of the Forty-seventh Foot,' in another column, wherein full information as to when the Forty-seventh first obtained the title of the 'Lancashire' Regiment will be found. We are not in possession of the date upon which the Seventy-second (Volunteers) was disbanded; but, considering that the 'Lancashire' Regiment existed twenty-six years previous to the publication of the Army List consulted by the above querist, we should say the breaking-up of the Volunteers occurred more recently."

In the "Records of the Forty-seventh Foot" in the same number, it is stated that the regiment took part against the Americans in the War of Independence, and was in several engagements, including Bunker's Hill, in June, 1775. Returning to England in November, 1781. "The year 1782 saw the Forty-seventh quartered in Lancaster and Warrington, and on the 31st August of the same year, whilst under the command of General Sir George Carlton, it was denominated the 'Lancashire' Regiment of Foot, which title it had cherished with pride for nearly a century, until a stroke of some mischievous pen swept it away, in conformity with one of those inexplicable

ideas for which the present age is so famous; so that the Forty-seventh or 'Lancashire' Regiment, is now practically non-existent."

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

ELIJAH RIDINGS.

(Nos. 4,304 and 4,309.)

[4,320.] When Elijah Ridings took the public-house in Butler-street, in 1832, he changed the sign from the Waterman to Falstaff and Bardolph, after a painting which Henry Liverseege was then engaged upon, and which proved to be his last production. This picture was sold with the late Mr. J. Clowes Grundy's collection, and brought forty-six pounds four shillings. What has become of it?

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

A SADDLEWORTH YEOMAN'S HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

(No. 4,310 and others.)

[4,321.] MORGAN BRIERLEY is slightly wrong in one or two particulars giving the meanings of the words in Note 4,286. He says the word "slay" means the reed fixed in the slay-boards of a loom. The reed is fixed in what is called the "batten," and a warp is "slayed" through the reed. To slay means only putting the warp in the reed to get the required width, and has nothing to do with driving up the weft, or "shooting," as it is termed. That is the work of the batten, or, as it is called in the Note, wayving wals. These are a wooden frame in which the reed is fixed, and swings to and fro at the will of the weaver. My master was a native of Saddleworth, and he taught me the art of weaving, and he used all the terms relating to a loom as he had been taught when a lad.

W. HALLIDAY.

Greenhill-street, Greenheys.

THE RADICAL PEPPER-BOXES.

(Query No. 4,314, June 5.)

[4,322.] In the disturbances of the years 1819-1820 the house that had been Mr. White's, on the site of the present Free Library, was converted into a barracks, and a small tower with a pointed conical roof was placed at each end of the terrace in front, and cannons with mouths pointing up and down King-street were there to terrify the "Radicals," as all the disaffected were termed in those days.

X.

The following from *Cowdroy's Gazette* of April 22, 1821, will throw some light upon this query:—

King-street, one of the most central of our public streets, is now disgraced by two erections which are

facetiously termed "Radical Pepper Boxes," inasmuch as their shape and port-holes somewhat resemble those of such domestic utensils, and their purposes is understood to be to pepper the Radicals. They are constructed, we suppose, as a sort of protection to the Barracks, and they have loop-holes for firing musketry in all directions, up and down the street. They completely occupy the footpath on that side of the street, and it is therefore the duty of the commissioners of police, by virtue of their oaths, to cause them to be removed as an obstruction and encroachment upon the highway. But military power is at present supreme here, and we presume that the officer who caused to be erected these disgusting nuisances is prepared to protect them by the bayonet. Notwithstanding all this and further warlike preparation, Manchester is as tranquil as it has been any time the last century.

FRED LEARY.

55, Fairfield-street.

MANCHESTER STREET LORE: COLDHOUSE.

(Nos. 4,287, 4,295, and 4,305.)

[4,323.] The notes of your correspondents, Mr. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN, Mr. JOHN MELLOR, and Mr. JOHN OWEN, on Coldhouse, call to mind several incidents appertaining to this meadow which may lend additional interest to this locality.

Mr. C. T. T.-B. writes of a Deed of Release "having reference to a parcel of land containing 2,682 yards, being part of a field called Cold . . . meadow, leading from the King's highway, called Within Greave." Concerning this the following, extracted from John Whiteley's will (shown to me by Mr. Samuel Fullalove, of this city), may tend to clear up an amount of uncertainty as to the early history of the meadow:—

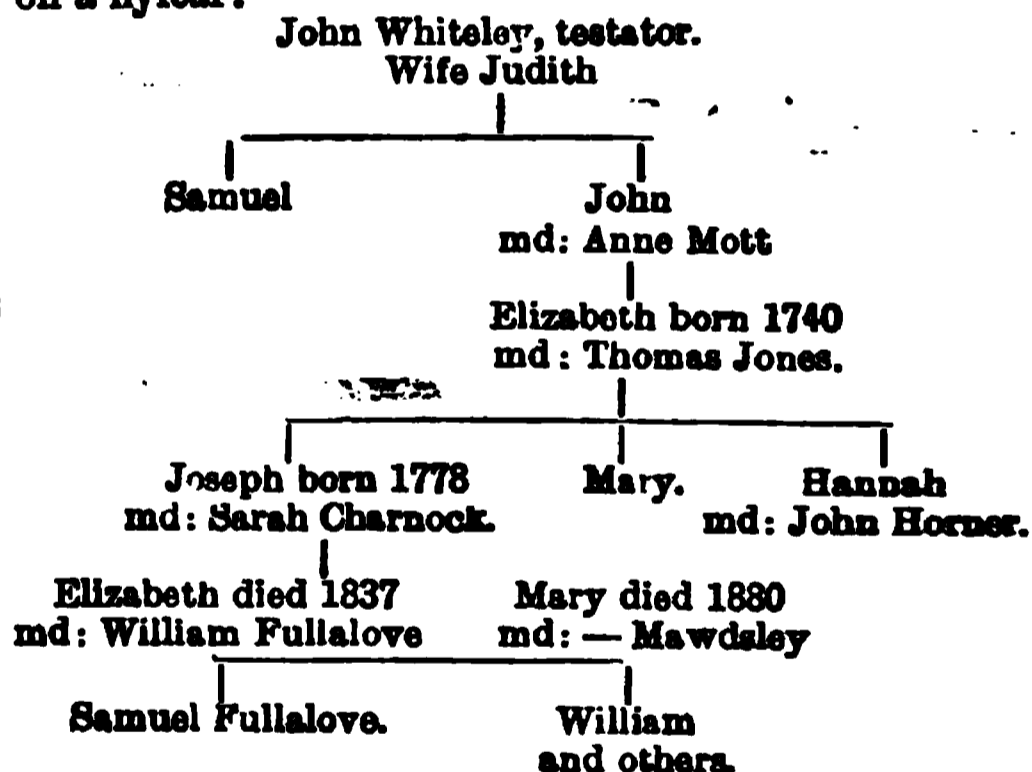
Item, as concerning all those the messuage and dwelling-house with the appurtenance wherein I now live, and which is situate in Withy Grove, in Manchester, and all that and those the messuage or dwelling-houses with the appurtenance, situate in Long Millgate . . . and which I purchased, some time since, from Ralph Mellor:

I do here give and devise the same unto my son Samuel Whiteley, during the term of his natural life, and after the determinating of that estate, I devise the same unto Gerrard Jackson, of Manchester, oversaid, yeoman, and Josiah Jesse of the same, threadmaker, in trust for the benefit of Samuel's heirs, and for default of issue, then I give and devise the same unto my son John, and after his decease to remain to his issue until in such manner as I have limited the same to my son Samuel, and for default of such issue to remain to my right heirs for ever.

As touching those dwelling-houses and premises with their appurtenances, situate in Withy Grove, and which I lately purchased from Thomas Baron . . . I do give the same unto my son John .

Item, it is my will and mind and I do hereby order and direct that my executors, hereafter named, shall, with all convenient speed after my decease, erect and build upon that part of the close, called Cold . . . meadow. I lately purchased from Mr. Joseph Bancroft, two houses of equal height and dimensions with those houses I lately built upon the lands I purchased from Mr. Baron, at Withy Grove, which houses, when built, and the soil whereupon the same shall stand, and all the rest of my land in Cold . . . meadow I do hereby grant unto my executors, hereafter named, to hold them, their heirs, and assigns for ever upon this trust and confidence that they and the survivors of them, and the executors of such survivors, shall and may sell for the best value, and such sums of money arising from the sale thereof to be for the use of my son John . . . I do hereby nominate and appoint my loving wife, friend Joseph Bancroft of Manchester and Robert Jesse of aforesaid, chapman, executors. . . . April 8, 1718.

Gerrard Jackson died 1727, Josiah Jesse died 1729, and Joseph Bancroft died on Saturday, May 26, 1753. It may be well to give here a pedigree which I notice on a flyleaf:—



On page 965 of Mr. Batty's report of Abuses in the Collecting of Rates appears a copy of a letter, as given under, sent by Elizabeth's husband to Mr. Batty in connection with those abuses:—

Mr. Batty

Being informt that you are Looking ore Towns Books and as I am A payer of the Town I wish to tell you that I am very ill used a Bout three months since Mr. Unite come to my house when I was from hom and Puld out his Trunchin and told my wife that he was the constable of the Town and Sade he wonted Twenty Seven Shiling for Police Tax and my wife Being Fritened she went and borrowed the money from John Longworth and Paid it Now Last monday A man that called himself Mr. Furnifual come to my house and Demanded the Same Tax that I ad Paid to Unite and Sade if I did not Pay it he

would Play Hell with me he then served me with a Sumance for the Tax I had paid to Unite Now as I think its a verry hard Case to pay TWice Over if you Can Do me any sevice in the Business.—Yeoul much oblige,
THOMAS JONES.

Unsmons gennel (Huntsman's Court Withy Grove)
Mancheste 7 Jan 1795

Correspondence anent the meadow and Mr. Whiteley's estate was opened in the *Manchester Guardian* of April 28, May 10, and May 20, 1879 respectively, and also has mention of by the late R. W. Procter in his *Bygone Manchester*, pp. 42 and 342. Most of the names given therein will be noticed in Pedigree as above. The origin of the ancient name of the meadow was fully discussed in the Notes and Queries of the *Manchester City News*, year 1878 [Notes 80, 94, 106, 134, and 140] and may be read with interest, Note No. 106 having special reference to the Baptist Chapel, Coldhouse, of which I hope to write of in a future note, including also more mention of Mr. Bancroft and our first Infirmary.

R. W. PROCTER.

Manchester.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.

(Query No. 4,317, June 5).

[4,324.] The lines are John Keble's, in the *Christian Year* on St. Matthew's Day. If you can spare space for the following lines your readers will judge of their appropriateness to our own crowded Manchester city life.

R. B. A.

Say when in pity ye have gaz'd
On the wreath'd smoke afar,
That o'er some town, like mist uprais'd,
Hung hiding sun and star;
Then as ye turn'd your weary eye
To the green earth and open sky,
Were ye not fain to doubt how Faith could dwell
Amid that dreary glare, in this world's citadel?

But Love's a flower that will not die
For lack of leafy screen,
And Christian Hope can cheer the eye
That ne'er saw vernal green;
Then be ye sure that Love can bless
E'en in this crowded loneliness,
Where ever moving myriads seem to say,
Go—thou art nought to us, nor we to thee—away!

There are in this loud stunning tide
Of human care and crime,
With whom the melodies abide
Of the everlasting chime,
Who carry music in their heart
Through dusky lane and wrangling mart,
Plying their daily task with busier feet
Because their secret souls a ho'y strain repeat.

CYCLING ROUTE IN NORTH WALES.

(Query No. 4,316, June 5.)

[4,325.] The best cycling route from Chester to Bettws-y-Coed, to pass through Colwyn Bay, is, in my opinion, through Hawarden, ten miles; Northop, Holywell, 18½; St. Asaph, 28½; Abergelle, 35; Colwyn Bay, 41; and continue on close to Conway, but leaving the Tubular Bridge and the Castle to the right, and taking the road on the east side of the river Conway through Llansantffraid and Llanrwst to Bettws, which is about twenty miles from Colwyn Bay. This is a very fair travelling road. The charming scenery approaching Bettws is too well known to need any description here. A mile or two past the Travellers' Inn, between Holywell and St. Asaph, there is a somewhat steep descent, with a nasty, sharp bend about half-way down. This will require care.

If time is not of great importance, the route I should take from Bettws to Bala, for grandeur of scenery and tolerably fair but hilly roads, would be the London and Holyhead road towards Corwen for about two miles; then turn up the road on the right through Penmachno until the Festiniog and Bala road is reached. If it is not desired to go on to Festiniog, which is about two miles distant, turn to the left, and make straight for Bala. The distance from Bettws to the Festiniog and Bala road is about fourteen miles; from thence to Bala about fifteen miles.

Cycling on this route involves, of course, a lot of hard pushing in places, and the descent of some of the hills will have to be taken with great care: but all this is well repaid by the magnificent scenery, and between Festiniog and Bala it is of the wildest description. There are two main roads from Bala to Corwen (sixteen miles), but I can only speak of the one on the west side of the River Dee, which is good but hilly, and runs at the foot of the Berwyn Range. At Corwen the London and Holyhead road (which is admitted to be one of the best cycling roads in the kingdom) is rejoined, and a grand spin of eleven miles soon brings you to Llangollen. A few miles beyond this town the London road is left on the right for Ruabon and Wrexham, and then through Gresford, where the road deteriorates to Chester (Llangollen to Ruabon six miles, Chester twenty-three).

The above is perhaps one of the best routes that could be selected for a cycling tour in Wales, the whole distance from Chester and back again being about 140 miles, which would be a fair three days'

tour. If "M. M. M." does not propose to go to Bala he would continue on the London road out of Bettws through Pentre Voelas to Corwen, about twenty miles. This road is excellent, but the ride is uninteresting after leaving Bettws.

J. CHAPMAN.

Greenheys.

* * *

The best cycling route is from Chester to Flint 12, to Mostyn 7, to Rhyl 9, to Abergelle 5, to Colwyn 6, to Conway 6, to Llanrwst 12, to Bettws-y-Coed 4, to Pentrevoelas 7, to Cerrig-y-Druidion 5, to Corwen 10, to Llangollen 10, to Ruabon 7, to Wrexham 5, and to Chester 12 miles. These distances, though probably correct, must only be regarded as approximate, as I have had to measure many of them on the map. On a map issued under the authority of the Cyclists' Touring Club, these roads are marked as being nearly all good, so this may be put down as a very favourable route for cycling. The coast road from Chester to Rhyl follows the Railway. Everyone must be acquainted with this, and I should say it was rather unattractive. The old coach road, which I should certainly go, because of the superior attractiveness of the scenery and the places passed, goes by Hawarden 7, Northop 5, Holywell 7, St. Asaph 10, Rhuddlan 3, and Rhyl 3 miles. This road is bad or rough as far as Holywell, and good to Rhyl. Of course there is no need to go quite into Conway, but I should say it was advisable to do so, as well as taking the opportunity of visiting Llandudno, four miles. Great care must be taken to go from Conway to Bettws-y-Coed on the east side of the river, as the road on the other side is bad. There is no favourable way of getting from Bettws-y-Coed to Bala except by Corwen, as all the roads are bad and rough, and fearfully mountainous. Going from Bettws-y-Coed to Bala there is no need to go quite into Corwen. There are two roads from Corwen to Bala, one on the north of the Dee, which is good, thirteen miles; the other, on the south of and along the valley of the Dee and beside the railway, which is bad or rough, the distance about the same. I should think the low road must be superior in scenery; it is the road I have always walked. Of course I should go one way and return the other. From Llangollen to Ruabon there are two roads, both good, one on each side the river. The road on the south side will be a little further, but it has the advantage of giving the magnificent view from the Dee bridge. This

route, both for scenery and places of interest, is unsurpassed in the country; for them "M. M. M." really must get a guide book, as it would take too much space to tell of them.

W. BINNS.

Salford.

QUERIES.

[4,326.] CASTLES IN THE MIDDLE AGES.—In what manner were the stone roofs of castles in the middle ages constructed?

E. F. J. H.

[4,327.] THROUGH THE DUKERIES TO LINCOLN. Can any reader give particulars of a pleasant walking route viâ the Dukeries to Lincoln, distance say about forty miles; also handy map to the locality?

ALBERT JOHNSON.

Stockport.

ON A BICYCLE IN CENTRAL ASIA.—Mr. Thomas Stevens, who is making a bicycle tour round the globe, has arrived at Meshed, in Persia, and on March 31 writes: Were the difficulties of the journey still ahead merely of the same character—physical difficulties, depending on myself alone, to overcome—you would hear of no word of complaint concerning them. I have a little complaining to do, however, at this juncture—a complaint of the Russians. After the Russian Minister at Teheran speaking me so fair; after going to considerable expense and trouble to provide myself with Russian money sufficient to carry me clear through to Japan, viâ Merv, Samarkand, and Southern Siberia, as per my last letter, and setting out with all confidence, I received notice when half way to Meshed that I wouldn't be allowed to go through. Here, also, with "Holy Russia" blocking my road on the one hand, I am assured on the other that I shall also be turned back at the Afghan frontier; that the Afghan Government, unable to guarantee my safety, will simply turn me back. This is comforting to say the least. I am here the guest of Mr. Gray, an English telegrapher connected with the Afghan Boundary Commission. Knowing before the news reached me on the road that the Russians had refused to give me the road, he kindly sent a letter by the Boundary Commission courier, explaining the difficulty to Col. Sir West Ridgway, and asking him to try and obtain permission for me to go through Afghanistan. The return courier with an answer is expected every day. The Commission camp is some five hundred miles east of Meshed, and, if no insurmountable obstacles present, I shall probably reach India viâ their camp, Cabul, and Peshawur. The weather looks more settled after the snow storms, and I have no doubt that long before this reaches America I shall have found some way to overcome present difficulties, and be hundreds of miles from "Meshed the Holy." Albeit the crowds at this moment vociferously howling, "Tomasha! tomasha! asp-i-awhen!" ("Let us see the iron horse") on the streets outside seem to be far from holy. Armed guards have just been stationed at our door by the authorities to keep off the mob.

Saturday, June 19, 1886.

NOTES.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND
HIS DESCENDANTS.

X.

[4,328.] 4. The Founder's children.—The Founder had five children, of whom, however, only two out-lived infancy:—viz., Robert and Humphrey, noticed (though imperfectly) by Mr. Booker in his *Blackley*. The eldest child was RICHARD, who, bapt. at the Coll. Ch., the 30th Apr., 1604 (the same day on which another child of the Founder, an unnamed infant, was buried there), died before 1613, when St. George recorded the short pedigree already referred to. ROBERT (who, as we shall see later, was father of the distinguished Judge, and of that Humphrey who transmitted the representation to the Gore-Booths) was bapt. at the Coll. Ch., the 24th March, 1604-5; married (by license), at the same Church, 26th May, 1625, Anne dau. of Oswald Mosley, of Ancoats Hall, Esquire—his marriage articles being dated 6 days earlier. In 1626 he was residing at Ancoats, where his eldest son, the future Judge was born. He was called to the bar by the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn, of which society he was afterwards made a bencher. He died—in the lifetime of his father, the Founder—between the 17th and the 24th Decr. 1634, being buried at the Coll. Ch. on the latter day. By his will, dated prior to 23d Aug. 1634 and proved at Chester (an inventory being lodged, in 1634-5), he appointed his wife and his brother Humphrey, executors; and bequeathed 1,228—the amount which he had left in his father's hands, as stated in a prior note—among his four younger children. His widow was afterwards married to the famous Presbyterian clergyman, the Rev. Thomas Case, of whose connection with the family I will, if space is afforded me, deal more particularly in noticing Robert Booth's younger children, whose guardian Mr. Case became. Mr. BAILEY has already (No. 3,552, July 19, 1884) made lengthened and detailed reference to Mrs. Case, and I need not further mention her.

The Founder's next son was HUMPHREY, of whom very little has hitherto been recorded, and of whom

I am able to give many particulars. He was bapt. at the Coll. Ch., 12 Apr. 1607: mar., in Feb. 1626, Anne, dau. of Ralph Hough, of London, gent.—a lady who was afterwards the wife of Edward Warren, of Poynton, Esquire, and by whose will (of which I have several particulars) 40s. is bequeathed to the poor of Blackley. Upon the occasion of this marriage (the bride's portion being £500) the Founder settled (by deed dated the 1st Feb. 1626, all his Blackley lands upon his son and contracted daughter-in-law and their issue in tail. It was on this estate, or upon adjoining lands (which he in Feb., 1639, purchased from Mr. John Legh, of Alkington) that Humphrey, the son, erected in 1639-40 the mansion, yet standing, known as Booth Hall, he afterwards slightly adding to the estate by purchases from several other persons. He is in some contemporary documents referred to as "Captain Booth" and "Captain Humphrey Booth"; but I have been unable to identify him with any of the royalist or parliamentary officers, whose names have been published. Was he the "Captain Booth" who was in Col. Gerrard's regiment (royalist)? In 1646 a (friendly) suit—of which I have several records—was pending in the Rolls Court and in the Court of Wards between the infant children (the Rev. Thomas Case being their "next friend") of the Founder's eldest son and the latter's two executors, and widow and brother (the Humphrey in question), with regard to the distribution, and previous separate investment, of the sum of £1,228 already referred to. This Humphrey Booth seems to have been generally described as of Salford; although he had built Booth Hall apparently for his principal abode. The following is a verbatim and literatim copy of the quaint and interesting "conditions" to a Bond, dated the 25th Jan., 1647, given by Thomas Tonge, of Sharples, Lancashire, "ffustian-webster," and James Dunster, of "Boulton-in-le-Moores," "taylier," in favour of this Humphrey "*de Salford . . . generoso.*"

The condicon of this Obligacon is such that if thaboue bonden Thomas Tonge and James Dunster or eyther of them theire or eyther of theire executors and adm[inistr]ators or assignes shall well and truly content and paye or cause to bee contented and payed unto thaboue named Captaine [he is not before called Captain] Humphrey Booth his heires executors administrators or assignes The full and Just Summe of Sixe pounds and five shillings of Current Money of England att one whole and entyre payement upon the Twentieth daie of July

next ensueinge the daie of the Date of theise presents att or in the *now mansion or dwelling house* [it was, I elsewhere learn, at "Salford Bridge ffoote"] of the aboue named Captaine Humphrey Booth in Salford afforesaid betwixt the howres of Ten of the Clocke in the beffore noone and two of the Clocke in the after noone of the same daye without ffraude or anie further delaye

I have other contemporary papers referring to this Humphrey, but I will save the valuable space of this column by giving here only the following record, which is important in showing, as it does, that this son had not wholly retired from trade:—

Beeyt knowne unto all men by these pr'sents that I whose name is here underwritten doe acquite and discharge M. Humfrey Booth of Blakeley in the county of Lancaster gentleman ffrom all maner of sutes [suits] Action or Causes of Actions sune or sunes of Money And ffrom all manner of Claymes whatsoever [which] may arise in respect of an Indenture of Copartner-shipe entered into for buying and selling of wooll beareinge date the Second day of May 1642: witnesse my hand and seale this 29th day of January 1645.

BERNARD EMOTT (s.)

Sealed signed and deliuered
in the pr'sence of

WILLIAM PENDLETON.

Mr. Emott, who, it appears, was a London clothier, releases Mr. Booth by a more formal deed, on the 7th May, 1647, from all matters, the subject of a certain Indenture, dated the 26th May, 1642 (*quere*, the Partnership deed above referred to?). The witnesses to this release are, it is interesting to record, "Robert Booth" [afterwards the Irish Chief Justice], "John Seede," "Peter Smyth," "Will'm Currer" and "Thos. Pownsett."

This son of the Founder was buried at Salford Chapel on the 19th March, 1648; his will being proved shortly afterwards by his widow. The youngest child of the Founder was SAMUEL, bapt. 19th Feb. 1608-9, at the Coll. Ch., and buried there 27 Sept. 1614.

I have now traced the Inquisition post mortem, taken after the Founder's death; and have secured a facsimile copy. It is a long record (sixty folios) in Latin. The more interesting and generally valuable portions I will publish here, of course in translated form.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

A SADDLEWORTH YEOMAN'S GOODS.

(No. 4,321 and others.)

[4,329.] I am much averse to using hard words, but I must say W. HALLIDAY is inexcusably ignorant concerning the subject upon which he pretends to correct me. Inexcusable because there are scores of handloom weavers still living in Saddleworth who would gladly have set him right. Perhaps W. HALLIDAY will be good enough to tell us what does drive the weft up into the warp if the "slay," or "reed," does not. Allow me to say my patience with almost wilful ignorance is nearly worn out.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

BRADSHAW HALL.

(Query No. 4,312, June 5.)

[4,330.] Bradshaw Hall was situated in Shudehill, opposite to Nicholas Croft. It was the residence of Mr. John Bradshaw, who played no inconsiderable part in the history of the town during the last century. Some particulars respecting him are recorded in Palmer's *History of the Foundations of Manchester*. He was born in 1708, and at about the age of twenty-five was put in commission of the peace for the town. In 1753 he was High Sheriff for the County of Lancaster. Four years afterwards, 1757, Manchester was remarkable for riots, caused by the scarcity and high price of food. Mr. Bradshaw, in conjunction with Mr. James Bailey, of Withington (his relation by marriage), who was High Sheriff for that year, took an active part in suppressing the riots, but peace was not restored until four of the rioters were killed and fifteen wounded. As the circumstances happened in the neighbourhood of Shudehill, the affair was popularly termed the "Shudehill Fight."

By his wife Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Peploe, Bishop of Chester and Warden of the Collegiate Church, Mr. Bradshaw had one son, James Bradshaw, Esq., of Darcy Lever, and two daughters; Ann married Mr. Charles White, surgeon, of Manchester, one of the founders of the Manchester Royal Infirmary; Elizabeth, the second daughter, married Radcliffe Sidebotham, Esq., son of the Rev. Samuel Sidebotham, rector of Middleton. Mr. Bradshaw died in 1777, and was buried in the Collegiate Church. His wife survived him for upwards of six years, and died at her son's house at Darcy Lever, July 21, 1783. She also was buried in the Collegiate Church.

JOHN MELLOR.

Ashley Lane.

QUERIES.

[4,331.] FISHER PRESTON, CLOCKMAKER. — A clock of the following description has been in my family for probably sixty or seventy years:—Dial of brass, with one finger, the only one it ever had; requires winding every night by means of heavy leaden weights hanging inside the long case. The name engraved on the brass face is "Fisher Preston," the former word between the vii. and vi., and the latter between vi. and v. I shall be much obliged to any reader who can tell me when this clockmaker lived, in order that I may thereby obtain an idea of the age of the clock. ARTHYRE GREENALLE.

WORDSWORTH AND LAKE COUNTRY ARCHITECTURE.—A hideous practice had grown up in the last century in the Lake district, and was continued in the early part of the present one, of coating all new buildings with a surface of roughcast, highly coloured in most cases with what in the broad dialect of the country was known as "boornt cambre," a copious infusion of which was held essential to afford the hot, foxy, yellow-fawn colour which had become dear to the native mind. The picturesque old farm buildings of an earlier date, among which may be found many to arrest and charm the eye of an artist, showed no such vicious treatment, but grew, as it were, from the soil, in the strong, broad, rugged random walling of native ragstone. Settling at Rydal in the second decade of the century, Wordsworth found the natural beauty of the country deformed and blotted over by these great yellow blotches of building, and, by precept and example, set himself to work a reformation, in the course of years bringing about so complete a change that, except in cases where additions had to be made to buildings already so coated, the face of yellow roughcast became the rare exception, and the bold, wholesome rubble work in dark grey stone the almost universal rule. The gain to both buildings and landscape is immense, and, with the rich body of foliage so common in that country, it has become quite possible for a new building to be felt as an addition to the beauty of the scene instead of, as at one time, a sure blot to it.—*Builder*.

ROBERT EMMET.—Mr. D. J. Oliver, who died recently in San Francisco, has left, among other bequests, the sum of five hundred dollars towards the erection of a statue or monument in memory of the Irish patriot Robert Emmet. The will sets forth that the money is to be "set aside until Ireland takes her place among the nations of the earth," and the interest on it until such time is to go to the poor families who live in the Claddagh, county Galway.

Saturday, June 26, 1886.

NOTE.

THE PREMIER'S QUOTATION.

[4,332.] In the magnificent peroration of Mr. Gladstone's fine speech in the House of Commons on the second reading of the Home Rule Bill he quoted a touching and melodious verse referring to the Harp of Innisfail (Ireland); and he alluded to it as taken from the national poet. Now, I suppose that the mellifluous and sugary Tommy Moore is regarded as the national poet of Ireland, albeit he has in the opinion of as acute a critic as ever lived, William Hazlitt, turned the harp of Erin into a musical snuff box! For all that, Moore represents the national poetry of Ireland as Robert Burns represents the poetry of Scotland, though without the manliness and raciness and gusto of the Ayrshire peasant.

But my chief purpose in writing is to say that our miraculous Premier has, I think, made a slight error in attributing the verse in question to Moore. It belongs to another Tommy—Thomas Campbell, to wit. Here is the verse—

Oh! once the Harp of Innisfail
Was strung full high to notes of gladness:
But yet it oftener told a tale
Of more prevailing sadness.

If my memory does not err this verse is taken from a poem of Thomas Campbell's, entitled "O'Connor's Child, or Love Lies Bleeding." I haven't books at hand, but some of your numerous readers will correct me if I am wrong.

G. W. NORMA.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

BRADSHAW HALL.

(Nos. 4,312 and 4,330.)

[4,333.] Many thanks to Mr. MELLOR for his information respecting this old relic of by gone days. After a little trouble I have found that the Hall is still in existence, and is occupied by Mr. Willis, smallware dealer, 41, Shudehill, and Mr. Towell, bird dealer. Mr. Willis kindly showed me through the premises, and pointed out to me the window where a thief broke in; he was captured, tried, and sentenced to death, but was afterwards reprieved.

T. O. NORRIS.

KNOLL OR KNOWL.

(Query No. 4,315, June 5.)

[4,334.] There seems to be no warrant in historical English for spelling this word Knowl. Knoll, which is the ordinary English form, and I believe the correct one, means a hillock, a mound, the top of a hill, and descends to us from the Anglo-Saxon "cnol" and Middle English "knol." Still, we know little of early English pronunciation, and the Anglo-Saxons or Englishmen in the years before the Stuarts may have sounded the "ol" with a long o, or with ow as in cow—it is impossible to decide. I should say it was now wholly a matter of taste whether the word is spelt knoll or knowl. ION.

* * *

The proper spelling of this should be knoll; it is to be found thus spelt in any good English dictionary, with the meaning annexed of a hill top, cop, or summit. It is derived from the Anglo-Saxon cnoll or hnoll (hnol having the same meaning); in Dutch it is knoll or knolle; in German, knollen; and in Low German, knull. Knowl is certainly an allowable orthography, as in place-names great differences often occur in their spelling at different times. For instance, "Rusholme" has been spelt to my knowledge in about a dozen different ways, and each was as correct as another—from Rysshorne to Rusholme.

ANTIQUITAS.

QUERIES.

[4,335.] AUTHORSHIP OF PAMPHLET.—Who was the author of a pamphlet entitled *One Leaf for the Chaplet of Wellington*, in verse? Printed by John Edward Taylor, London. Twelve pages; no date on the cover. A. S.

[4,336.] R. S. TOWNSHEND, OF MANCHESTER.—The following inquiry is taken from *Notes and Queries* for 1851 (i. s., vii., p. 179), and was made by Canon Marsden, author of *Philomoras*. It may with advantage be now repeated:—

I know that you have several intelligent correspondents in the neighbourhood of Manchester, and it is probable that they may be able to give me some information respecting a Mr. R. S. Townshend, a person of literary tastes and pursuits, who resided in that town about the year 1730. His commonplace Book or Diary, which has fallen into my hands, contains numerous allusions to the leading gentry and clergy of the neighbourhood, and more than once it mentions the well-known Dr. Byrom under the title of *Il Gran Maestro de Tachigraphia*. Dr.

Deacon, a distinguished person among the Non-jurors, is also mentioned. The acting of *Cato* by the scholars of the Grammar School on Dec. 20, 1732, is also mentioned with some critiques upon the performers. The elections at the Collegiate Church are constantly referred to as subjects of all-absorbing interest; there being a strong party, as well in the town as in the Church, of Jacobites, and these elections being regarded as a trial of party strength.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford.

CROWS AS PLANTERS OF TREES.—Mr. J. T. Campbell gives some notes in the *American Naturalist* on the part that crows play as forest planters. He says: One of the most industrious and persistent seed-transporting agencies I know of is that ubiquitous, energetic, rollicking, meddlesome busybody, the crow. Did you ever take a young crow and raise it as a pet? Please do so once, and you will have more information about crows than I could give you in an entire number of the *Naturalist*. They become very tame, and after they are able to fly it seems to be the delight and work of their lives to pick up and carry from place to place any and every article which is not too heavy for them. After a pet crow has had a little practice he is as expert at tricks of legerdemain as a showman. He will steal a spool of thread, a thimble, a pair of scissors, a paper of pins, or what not, right before your eyes, and as he flies away will tuck it so adroitly up under his tail feathers that you can't see it. He makes a deceptive grab as he starts to fly, by taking a few steps as if to give himself a little momentum to start his flight, and one of these steps he will plant square on the article he intends to steal, when his claws close round it and off he goes. Perchance he will alight only a few yards distant on the ground beside a chip, which chip, as he alights, he will so quickly and adroitly turn over with the foot as to cover out of sight the article he has taken. He will then take a few steps about the chip with his toes all properly radiating, purposely to show you that he does not hold the missing article in his claw. Unless you are acquainted with his tricks you would concede that he had not taken your thimble, so adroitly is the trick performed. Then he is ready for some new mischief. The crow in his wild state is all the time busy at some such work as I have described. I cannot discover that he has any design in this busy, meddlesome mischief. If there is design in his work it is back of the crow in the Great Superintendent of nature's processes. I have seen crows gather by hundreds and have a regular pow-wow or mass convention, where they seemed to discuss measures and appoint officers. I have heard their cawing more than a mile distant. At length they get through, by finishing their work, or tiring of it, and disperse. As they start to fly away many, if not all, will drop something. I have found these to be acorns, walnuts, hickory-nuts, buckeyes, sycamore-balls, sticks, egg-shells, and pebbles. As a crow leaves an oak he will pluck an acorn, which he may carry five miles, and light on a beech tree, where something else will attract his attention, when he will drop the acorn, and maybe pluck a pod of beech nuts, and fly away somewhere else

Saturday, July 3, 1866.

NOTE.

THE REV. THOMAS CASE; WARDEN HEYRICK; AND
THE BOOTH FAMILY OF SALFORD.

[4,337.] The following two hitherto unpublished documents are of not only local but general interest. They are part of my collection of seventeenth century MSS.

The Rev. Thomas Case, M.A.—the noted Presbyterian clergyman, one of the “Assembly of Divines,” and mentioned (together with the great Calamy) in the lines of *Hudibras*,

For who first bred them up to pray,
And teach the House of Commons’ way?
Where had they all their gifted phrases,
But from our Calamies and Cases?—

was sometime minister of Salford Chapel, and was otherwise associated with our district. Mr. J. E. BAILEY has, I believe, a large stock of references to this distinguished man, some of which he kindly transferred to this column in Note No. 3,552 (July 19, 1884).

Warden Heyrick’s association with Case is well known. Through it, and through Founder Booth’s direct connection with the Collegiate Church, and his younger son’s indirect connection (as churchwarden of the Salford Chapel and otherwise) with the Manchester Parish, the undoubted friendship would originate between the eminent Warden and the interesting Booths of Salford—a family to whom Case was closely related by marriage.

The more important and valuable record, though the later in date, reads as follows: it is neatly written on well-preserved foolscap paper:—

“Bee it knowne unto all men by theis p’nts That I Thomas Case of the parrish of Magdalen Milkestreete London Clarke Have receaved and had of Humphrey Booth of Blakeley [and Salford] in the County of Lancaster Gent. The sune of Six hundred pounds of lawfull money of England, due and payable unto me the said Thomas Case Att and upon the ffeast day of St. Michaell Th’archangell last past before the date hereof by one decree made by the honble Comissionere of the greate Seale of England, beareing date the ffoureteenth day of May 1646, ffor the uses in the said decree expressed, Of which said sune of Six hundred pounds, and every part and parcell thereof see due and payable unto me, On the said ffeast day as aforesaid, I the said Thomas Case doe acknowledge my selfe fully satisfied contented and paid, and doe hereby cleerely acquitt exonerate and discharge the said Humphrey Booth his executors and administrators and every of them for ever by theis p’nts, In

witnes whereof I the said Thomas Case have hereunto sett my hand and Seale the Seaventh day of May Anno D’ni 1647, And in the Three and Twentieth yeare of the raigne of or Sovereigne Lord King Charles of England etc. THO: CASE (s.)

Sealed and Deliu’ed in the p’nce of
Thomas Smith
William Beedam
Samuel Mosley

The “Commissioners” referred to (the Earl of Kent, Mr. Sergeant Wild and Mr. Prideaux) were the Commissioners for the time being acting, under the authority of the Parliament, as Keepers of the Great Seal, and as chief official guardians of the minors of Great Britain, and were, in this particular case, officiating probably as the Judges of the then still existent Court of Wards and Liveries (soon afterwards abolished) which had been so famous (or rather infamous) a source of profit to the Tudor and Stuart Kings and Queens-regnant of England. The “decree” was a special order made in the matter of the rights of certain “infants” who were nephews and nieces of the Mr. Booth above mentioned, and for whom Mr. Case was guardian *ad litem* or “next friend.”

The following is a verbatim and literatim transcript from a *Copy* (in the same handwriting as the original) of a letter, written by the above named Mr. Booth, and addressed “To his much Respected Sister In Lawe Mrs. Ann Case [née Mosley] in milke street in London”:—

“Good Sister,—I have Recea’ed your Letter and should bee very glad, the moneys were paid in Acordinge to the Order of Courte [i.e. the Court of the Master of the Rolls] unto which all sides submitted And ffor that purpose the moneys have bin roadie Longe since in Mr. Emotts hands And as I writt you beefore I neuer tooke Any Exception to the securitie nor moved Mr. Page Aboute itt butt left it to himselfe Accordinge to the Order of the Court which as I have bin see I shall bee Desyrrous and willing to Obserue.

“And now that I heare my Cosen [niece] Ann is vppon marryage [she married shortly afterwards Mr. John Sams, a mercer, of London], and Humfrey to bee bound Apprentice I am and shall bee glad to heare of Any-thinge that may bee ffor their goode And Doubt nott of youre Care therein, See as ffor see much as Concernes her if you please to move the Court that I may pay see much to her vppon marryage [such an order was obtained on the 12th Feb.] And that her husbands Aquittance, (whoe I presume will bee of Age) may bee my Discharge, I shall giue way to the Obseruance thereof And then the securitie will bee ffor A Lesser sune and see the Lesse Lyable to Exception, And ffor the tow hundred ffor Hamffrey [sic] in Regard of his Infancie, I must Rely vpon the securitie in Court ffor that as well as the Restt; Butt ffor Any Interest or profit of the moneys I suppose noe one Can thinke I should Alow Any

since the Decree in Courtt And soe I haue Often said in Reguard it was Allwaies to bee in readines ffor paymentt when it was Called ffor, In soe much as I Durst nott Dispose thereof nor Imploy the same; Butt I Expectt to bee acquainted wth the proceedings in the p'ticulars Aforesaid, before you Receiue Any moneys ffrom mee.

"And soe hee Rests that is

"yr faithfull Brother In Lawe

"HUMFFREY BOOTHE.

"Blackley this 9th

"of January 1646."

[In the handwriting of the famous Warden.]

"A true Cotype of a lre sent, soe witnesseth

"RICH: HEYRICKE "

[Postscript.]

"Sister,—I sentt you a Leter of the same Contence verbatim this is, Dated the 9th of January, 1646 And I nott heringe Anything ffrom you since, in Answer thereof, nott soemuch as the Receitt of itt, haue thoughtt good to send you this, Desyringe an Answer of the Receitt of itt, And whether you haue Receaved my my fformer Leter."

The letter reveals its author as a prudent and sound business man, inheriting some of the success-bringing qualities of the worthy Founder. It is curious that the companion document proves Mr. Case to have been a man of ready caution and foresight. On this MS. there appears, as the work of the signatory's pen, a zigzag line, running down from the last line of the deed to the signature itself, which, placed opposite a ready-made seal, exceptionally far below the conclusion of the deed, would otherwise have appeared beneath a considerable blank space—enough to hold, for (anachronistic) instance, an "I.O.U." The reverend gentleman appeared to have grasped the situation at once, and to have adopted the best expedient to prevent improper use of his autograph. The incident, trifling though it may appear, must surely be of some importance if it will but enable the worthy clergyman's biographer to state emphatically that the eminent divine was also a cautious and prompt man of business—a fact which, if borne in mind, might throw light on some of those actions of the great Presbyterian which are undoubtedly matters of history.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street.

QUERIES.

[4,338.] A DEVONSHIRE TOUR.—Will any one of your readers who is acquainted with Devonshire kindly give a sketch of a tour into that county? The information is wanted for a married couple who have about a fortnight at their disposal.—ARBUTUS.

[4,339.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Who is the author of the following lines, which are placed in the Hospice at Grange-over-Sands?

O God! O good beyond compare!
If these Thy meaner works be fair,
If this Thy bounty gild the span
Of faded earth and fallen man,
How glorious must those mansions be
Where Thy redeemed dwell with Thee.

J. WADSWORTH.

THE CONSUMPTION OF TEA.—The popular idea that the people of Great Britain consume more tea on an average per head than any other country in the world is now shown to be erroneous. The Australian colonies and New Zealand (according to one of the Indian journals) drink far more tea per head of population than the British Islands. The Australians come first, with 7·66lb. per head; the New Zealanders next, with 7·23lb. per head while the people of Great Britain consume only 4·90lb. each. Newfoundland and Canada come next, while in the United States the consumption is only 1·30lb. per head; and in Russia, which is always regarded as a great tea-drinking country, the consumption is only 0·61lb. per head. Belgium, Sweden, Austria-Hungary, and Spain consume less than the other European nations, but there is not one nation on the Continent, with the exception of Holland, in which the annual consumption exceeds one pound per head.

AIX-LES-BAINS AND ITS BATHS.—Dr. W. Wakefield has published through Messrs. Sampson Low and Co., of London, a guide for those desirous of visiting Aix-les-Bains either for health or pleasure. Aix, a town pleasantly situated in a valley of Savoy, and standing up the shores of Lake Bourget at an altitude of 800 feet above the sea level. Of late years it has become one of the most favourite health resorts on the Continent, on account of the beauty of the place itself and of the scenery within easy reach, and also for the hygienic value of its mineral waters. These waters are serviceable for the cure or alleviation of gout, rheumatism, scrofulous affections, diseases of the respiratory organs, nervous affections, and skin complaints. Certain forms of deafness are also curable by their means. Dr. Wakefield indicates the right use of the Aix waters, and he also points out the cases where they should be avoided—fact which shows that he has written an honest book. In all other respects, and particularly for those in search of recreative pleasure at Aix, his volume is a model in its way. It is attractively written, and he does not appear to have forgotten any single thing which an intending visitor or tourist would like to know.

Saturday, July 10, 1886.

NOTES.

GLEANINGS FROM THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE.

[4,340.] Whilst looking over some old volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine* in search of an article, I came upon two or three extracts relating to Manchester and Lancashire in general. I give below two of these extracts which may be of interest to some.

I.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July, 1797 (vol. lxvii., pp. 559), there is a communication, signed "H.D.," relating to a curious medal struck in Manchester. The communication is as follows:—

I send you a description of a medal of which I wish I could send you a drawing. On one side, the figure of the King in his robes, standing before the church reclining his right hand on a pillar superscribed "Bill of Rights," and on the base "Magna Charta;" in his right hand a scroll with "Test Corporation" [on it]. In the exergue, "May our happy Constitution in Church and State ever remain unimpaired. Church and King Club, Manchester. D.I.P.F." On the reverse:—

The
Third Attempt
of
the Dissenters
in the short period of
three years
to obtain a repeal of
Corporation and Test Acts,
those barriers of the
British Constitution,
was frustrated by the
House of Commons
by a
majority of 189.
March,
1790.

It will be remembered that by the Corporation Act, passed in the year 1661 (temp. Charles II.), Parliament compelled all corporate bodies to receive the sacrament according to the rights of the Church of England, to renounce the Covenant, and to take the oath of "Non-resistance." The Test Act was passed two years later, with the object of preventing political power being placed in the hands of Papists or dissenters. These Acts, "barriers of the British Constitution," were finally repealed in 1828 on the motion of Lord John Russell. It would be interesting to know if such a medal has been preserved.

II.

The second extract I give is taken from the number of the *Magazine* for December, 1822, from among the obituary notices. It records the decease of a Lancashire worthy, for she deserves the name, at Halliwell. The notice is as follows:—

Lately—At Halliwell, near Bolton, at the advanced age of 108 years, Anne M'Donald. In early life she went to America, where she remained for fourteen years; was present at the memorable siege of Quebec, and at the time was laundress to the great hero of the age, the valiant General Wolfe. All the women except herself were ordered to the woods during the siege; she was slightly wounded in the head by the splinter of a shell. She resided for more than half a century in the neighbourhood where she breathed her last, and was regularly in the habit of walking to and from Bolton once a week, a distance of two miles, till within a few months of her death.

E. PARTINGTON.

Rusholme.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.

(Query No. 4,339, July 3.)

[4,341.] The stanza inquired about by J. Wadsworth, beginning—

O God! O good beyond compare!

is part of a hymn by Bishop Heber, which will be found (No. 276) in Dr. Martineau's beautiful selection of *Hymns for the Christian Church and Home*.

C. S. G.

["Onez" and other correspondents have obliged with information to the same effect.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

[4,342.] WALKING TOUR IN YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE.—Advice is desired as to a good walking tour from Skipton to Ingleton, to return by Whalley and Stoneyhurst. Any information as to distance and points of interest will be thankfully received by

J. DAWSON.

THE LARGEST DYNAMO.—The Brush Electric Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, are building the largest dynamo yet made. It is between twelve feet and thirteen feet long, and will weigh ten tons. It is calculated to give a current of 122,500 amperes, and have a power of 245,000 watts. The machine is to be used at Lockport, New York, for the production of aluminium in the electric furnace. Five hundred horse-power will be required to drive it, and turbines will be employed for the purpose.

Saturday, July 17, 1886.

NOTES.

MOTHER GOOSE.

[4,343.] Mr. E. G. Lucas contributes to the *St. Alban's Daily Messenger*, published at St. Alban's, in the State of Vermont, a sketch of Elizabeth Foster, and identifies her as the author of Mother Goose. He acknowledges his indebtedness for the main facts to the late Rev. J. M. Manning, associate pastor for many years of the Old South Church in Boston. Elizabeth Foster was born in Charlestown, and lived there till her marriage to Isaac Goose, of Boston. She was his second wife, and began her married life as step-mother to ten children. To these she added six more. No wonder she wrote:—

There was an old woman lived in a shoe,
She had so many children she didn't know what to do.
Nevertheless she lived to be ninety-two, and survived her husband. One of her daughters married Thomas Fleet, and Mrs. Goose went to live with her. Fleet was a printer in Pudding Lane, Boston. The old lady went about the house crooning her ballads and songs, and presently it occurred to Fleet that he might as well write down these rhymes. His notes rapidly accumulated, and in a little while he had enough of them to make a volume. These he printed and bound them into a book, which he offered for sale under the following title:—"Songs for the Nursery; or Mother Goose's Melodies for Children. Printed by T. Fleet, at his Printing House, Pudding Lane, 1719. Price two coppers." This title-page also bore a large cut of a veritable goose. Mr. Lucas gives the following inscription, which is probably (though he does not say so) placed in the Old South Church at Boston:—

ELIZABETH FOSTER,
Known in the Literature of the Nursery as
MOTHER GOOSE,
Was born in Charlestown, Mass., 1665,
Married Isaac Goose of Boston, 1692,
Became a member of the Old South Church in 1698,
Was left a widow in 1710.
The first edition of her melodies was
published in 1719.
She died 1757,
Aged 92 years.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY WILLS.

[4,344.] In your issue of July 3 is an account of the Antiquarian Society's visit to Marple Hall. Mr. Bailey, F.S.A., read a paper on Judge Bradshaw, and

exhibited an old copy of his will executed March 22, 1653-4. The exordium, Mr. Bailey says, was very striking, and seemed to caution us against too readily believing what is often said, that this portion of the ancient wills was copied from forms or models in books of precedent. The gravest moment of a man's life, when he is called upon to review his relations to his Maker, his family, and friends, is not a moment when he stands in need of borrowed language, for his feelings prompt the sentiment of his heart. Any one meeting with examples of the seventeenth century wills must indeed be greatly struck with these pious exordiums. A fair proportion of each is invariably taken up with the recital of Christian resignation, of faith and hope, of final resurrection. Alongside the Judge's will, perhaps you will find space for one or two others. Copies in my possession. It would be interesting to know if wills of earlier date than Puritan times are similarly drawn. If so, doubtless the form has come down from good Catholic days, when lawyers themselves were ecclesiastical. After the opening of the eighteenth century the wills are more prosaic.

JOHN E. LERS.

Stretford.

JUDGE BRADSHAW'S WILL.—In the name of God, Amen. I John Bradshaw . . . being in good health and perfect memory, praised be God, yet sensible of the uncertainty of this frail life, find it fit and convenient, having through grace this opportunity lent me, to make and declare my last will and testament. First I bequeath my soule to Almighty God, trusting through faith in the blood of his Son my Saviour, to be made partaker of everlasting life, and that my sinnes being graciously pardoned I shall appeare clothed in the righteousness of Christ my elder Brother, to whom with the Father and Blessed Spirit be glory and prayse for ever. My body I commend to the earth, to be interred in decent and Christian buriall at the discretion of my executor, without observing the vanitie of any funerall pompe.

In the name of God, Amen. I Edmund L—— . . . sicke and weake of bodie but of perfect memory, for which I give praise unto Allmightie Godd, this one and twentieth day of May, in the eighteenth year of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lorde Charles, by the Grace of God King of Englande, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defendor of the Faith, Anno Domini 1642, do make, ordaine . . . First and principally I commende my soule into the hands of Almighty God, hoping to be saved by and through the meritts of Jesus Christ. And my body I commend unto the earth in sure and certaine hope of Resurrection unto eternall life.

In the name of God, Amen. The two and twentieth day of March in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fiftie and nine, I James L—— . . . being sicke of body but of good and perfect memory, praised be

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"I come by NOTE, to give and to receive."

Merchant of Venice, act iii., scene 2.

Manchester Notes

and

Queries.



[REPRINTED FROM THE "MANCHESTER CITY NEWS"]

MANCHESTER:
CITY NEWS OFFICE, STRUTT STREET.
1886.

This Part Completes the Sixth Volume, 1885-6.

God for the same, knowinge death is certaine to all mankinde and the time most uncertaine, and being desirous that love and amitie may continue amongst my wife and kindred after my decease, doe constitute . . . First and principally I give and commend my scule into the hands of Almighty God, my Creator and Maker, trusting assuredlie through the meritts and mediation of Jesus Christ his Sonne my only Saviour and Redeemer to receive free remission of all my sinnes and to be made ptaker of everlasting life together with the Elect, of which number through the infinite mercy of God in Christ Jesus I doe hope and confidently believe that I am one. And my body and bones I committ to the earth from whence I received them, to be buried in such decent manner as my exor shall think fit, and for my temporall goods which God in mercy hath bestowed upon me it is my Will . . .

In the name of God, Amen. The eighteenth day of December anno domo 1704 and in the fourth year of the reign of or Sovraigne Lady Ann, by the Grace of God, Queens. I Issac L.— . . . being aged and infirme in body but of sound and pfect memory, praise be given unto Almighty God for the same, and knowing the uncertainty of this life heare on earth, and being desirous to settle things in order, do make . . . First and principally I comit and most humbly commend my soule into the hands of Almighty God my Creator, assuredly believing that I shall receive full pardon and free remission of all my sins and be saved by the precious death and merits of my blessed Saviour and only Redeemer Jesus Christ, and my body to the earth from whence it was taken in such decent and Christian maner as my exor . . . shall be thought meet and convenient. And as touching such wordly estate as the Lord in mercy hath lent me my Will and mind is . . .

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

WALKING TOUR IN YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE.
(Query No. 4,342, July 10.)

[4,345.] J. DAWSON will find a pleasant walk of about twenty-five miles, starting at Bell Busk Station, via Malham, Stainforth, Horton, Selside, Clapham, to Ingleton.

Rocks on rocks confusedly hurl'd,
The fragments of an earlier world.

West Yorkshire abounds in wild craggy scenery, and I don't know where you can find more wondrous freaks of nature. Z. WALSH.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME MILES PLATTING.
(Nos. 2,108 and 2,190.)

[4,346.] The following extract from *Rural Historical Gleanings of South Lancashire*, by Joseph Fielding (page 213) gives a somewhat different explanation to that noted in your issue of March 12, 1881:—

The boundary of the township of Manchester and Newton, at Miles Plating, is a brook which crosses Oldham Road at the distance of one mile or there-

abouts from where the Market Cross stood. This brook was originally open to the road. Stepping-stones were laid for foot passengers, but horses and other cattle had to wade through the water. Platting, we believe, used to be a common name for such places, and this place was called the Mile Platting on account of its distance from the Cross.

ONEZ.

QUERIES.

[4,347.] AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.—Can any one tell me the author of the following lines:—

We may in spirit still enjoy
Communion with the blest,
Calmed in our sorrow by the thought
Of their eternal rest:
While the same light that led their steps
Shines on our heavenward way,
While yet we keep the same true faith
The same bright hope as they.

H. C.

Crumpsall.

[4,348.] RINGERS' ORDERS.—In the belfry at Bowdon Church is a board on which is painted the following:—

THE RINGERS' ORDERS.

You ringers all observe these orders well,
He pays his sixpence that overturns a bell;
And he that rings with either spur or hat,
Must pay his sixpence certainly for that
And he that rings and does disturb ye peal,
Must pay his sixpence or a gun of ale.
These laws elsewhere in every church are used,
That bells and ringers may not be abused.

Are these rules generally adopted now? Was it a custom or a customary infringement of a rule to ring with spur and hat on? What measure is a "gun," and is the term applicable only in Cheshire? Is it true that these orders obtain "in every church?"

NATOR.

THE AUTOCRAT OF THE LOCAL BOARD.—Colonel Blundell has odd ideas of a local board. It would seem that the Little Crosby Local Board held its meetings in the Colonel's house. This was objected to, and it was decided to hold them in a hotel. On this Colonel Blundell wrote to the board to say that "if they are to be held at an hotel, the Blundell Arms, which is on my estate, would be the proper place, and not at the Hightown Hotel, which is not on my property," because "I got leave to form a local board for Little Crosby, on the sole understanding that I should retain the management of it, which does not seem to be the case at present," and so "it will now be necessary to hold the next meeting at Hightown Hotel, when arrangements must be made to hold the future meetings at the hall as heretofore."

Saturday, July 24, 1886.

NOTES.

A MOTHER OF THIRTY-NINE CHILDREN.

England, thou hast within thy wave-girt isle
Scenes of magnificence and beauty rare,
Too often scorn'd by thy ungrateful sons,
Who leave, unseen, thy lovely hills and vales,
And seek for pleasure 'neath a foreign sky.

ROGERSON.

[4,349.] The above is the motto printed on the back of the title-page and fronting the "contents" of a delightful little book which has been kindly entrusted to my care by its owner within the last few days. The volume is entitled *Rambles Round Loughborough*, by the author of *The History of Charnwood Forest*; and it bears the date 1868, having been published by Spain, Market Place, Loughborough. In begging leave to notice this little work, I may observe that I have pleasure in recalling that I had the honour of calling John Bolton Rogerson my friend so long ago as the year 1846; consequently the verses above quoted were pleasant for me to observe and read in their present connection. He wrote many sweet things in my opinion; and has, I think, of late years, from whatever cause I know not, lost the recognition as a true Lancashire poet that he at a no recent date held in public esteem. However, my chief object in thus addressing you is to call attention to a most remarkable statement of facts which I find recorded in pp. 72 and 73 of the little volume; and these I now take leave to quote. The passage is from an article entitled, "Grace Dieu and the Monastery," and it is as follows:—

Once, when staying at Lowesby Hall, we recollect admiring the charming portrait of a lady. "You would admire the other side much more," said Lady F——; and the picture was reached down for us. It was inscribed:

MRS. GREENHILL,

Who had *thirty-nine* children by one husband, all born at single births except two, all living to man's estate. . . . Our mother always said she thought she should have had two or three more children if our father had not died.

"Who was this mother in Israel? I asked. The excellent baronet could not tell. She certainly was no myth. He longed to know, and merely knew that she was traditionally said to be of the family. I determined to discover her, and seeing some time after, in an Oxford paper, the name of Dr. Greenhill, I at once wrote to that gentleman, and received a most polite reply, stating, "I have the honour to be a lineal descendant of that Mrs. Greenhill, and enclose an impression of the seal of our family arms, granted to her son by King Charles II. in commemoration of the remarkable fact, or rather facts. It is a lion powdered with thirty-nine stars. The cir-

cumstance led to the doctor's receiving a most hospitable invitation to Lowesby Hall, where he could have the gratification of seeing his renowned ancestress—the framer of the thirty-nine articles."

The above quotation (or rather quotation within quotation) leaves a blank space of about three-fourths of a page in the volume, on which I find manuscript which I must now quote. It stands exactly thus:—

(1) Crest, a Griffin rampant. (2) Thirty-nine stars. Not stars but mullets. A mullet in heraldry is the rowel of a spur, and has five points; therefore supposed to be a star. See Heraldry in the British Museum, where, at the name of Greenhill, the crest is powdered with thirty-nine mullets. (Signed) Thomas Greenhill.

Now it comes for me to say that the excellent gentleman whose name I have inscribed above is the friend who has lent me the book, and that it is with his kind permission that I send you these particulars, as also to copy the presentation inscription by the author of the volume. It reads thus:—

THOMAS GREENHILL, Esquire,
a descendant of the celebrated Mrs. Greenhill,
and father of the distinguished Second Wrangler
of 1870,

With the author's congratulations and kind regards.
The Hermitage. Feb. 5th, 1870.

To conclude this discursive note I have only to add that in speaking to my friend Greenhill on the subject of his family, I had the hardihood to risk the familiar quotation. Why, "their name is Legion." "No, my friend," he replied, "their name is Greenhill, and they all spring from the neighbourhood of Harrow-on-the-Hill. DUNELM.
London.

P.S.—In conversation with my old friend C. Hardwick, to whom I have had an opportunity of reading my MS., he suggested that the name Greenhill-street, Manchester, may have originated from some family connection with the neighbourhood of Greenheys, now so well known as the birthplace of De Quincey. Some of your correspondents may perhaps enlighten us on this matter.

QUERIES.

[4,350.] CYCLE ROUTE TO YORKSHIRE.—I shall be glad if some cyclist will give the best and easiest route from Manchester to Huddersfield. J. B.

[4,351.] A POEM BY HEINE.—Can any of your readers direct me to an English translation of a poem by Heine, where he describes a great feast of the gods, which was interrupted and broken up by the appearance of a man bearing a wooden cross; the whole being intended to symbolize the conquest by Christianity of mythological beliefs? W. T. B.

Saturday, July 31, 1886.

NOTES.

BROKESBY'S LETTER ON ENGLISH ANTIQUITIES AND
NATURAL HISTORY, 1711.

[4,352.] There are some interesting references to localities in the counties of Cheshire and Lancashire in a letter published in the sixth volume of Thomas Hearne's edition of the *Itinerary* of John Leland (Oxford, 8vo., 1711), which are deserving of notice and worthy of a place in our local literature. Leland's work is not a common book, and the letter to be noticed has not often been referred to.

The writer, Francis Brokesby the Non-juror, was a native of Leicestershire, and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. His early piety was evinced by the composition of a poem which he recited when taking his degree. He became S.T.B. in 1666. Much of his private life may be gathered from Nichols's *History of Hinckley* in the *History of Leicestershire*. He was first Rector of Broad oak, Essex; then Rector of Rowley, which is five miles S.W. of Beverley in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The latter was worth £200 per year. He says in the letter under consideration that his connection with Yorkshire lasted above twenty years. He lost the benefice in 1690 for refusing to take the oaths. He was a literary man, the author of several books, and was notable as having, at Shottesbrooke, co. Berks., assisted Robert Nelson in his work on the Feasts and Fasts. He was also possessed of ingenious tastes. For a length of time, after the death of his wife in 1699, he went to live with Mr. Francis Cherry of Shottesbrooke, the well-known patron of the Non-jurors; and to him Brokesby, 13 Aug., 1711, dedicated his *History of the Government of the Primitive Church*, which was written in Cherry's home, where he had then lived five years. Mr. Cherry had befriended Hearne in his education, and when the latter had completed his edition of Leland it was sent for Cherry's approval, and thus came under Brokesby's notice. Hearne remarks that of his benefactor's piety, integrity, learning, and wisdom, he could say many things (Preface, p. xv.) In his retreat at Shottesbrooke Brokesby met with the learned Non-juror Henry Dodwell, Fellow in 1662 of Trinity College, Dublin, whose *Life* Brokesby wrote, and the same was published in 1715, the author saying that he himself was then seventy-seven

years of age. Hearne's opinion of his friend Brokesby was that he was a learned and honest man and general scholar, but that he was not fit to write the life of that great man (Dodwell). There is a reference to this little association of Non-jurors in Lathbury's *History* (p. 208), where under date of 5 March, 1709-10, Brokesby writes: "Therefore we go all to church." The letter immediately under notice was penned at the house of Mr. Cherry, it being dated "Shottesbrooke, 16 May, 1711." It is noticeable that about a month later Dodwell himself there died (7 June). Cherry died in 1713. Brokesby's death occurred in October, 1714, very suddenly; and he was buried at Stoke-Golding, his birth-place, on the 24th, and this was about a week before his *Life* of Dodwell came out. Both Dodwell and Cherry were subscribers to Hearne's edition of Leland, though Brokesby was not; and the three friends are often named in the prefaces, &c., to the volumes.

Mr. Brokesby was in some way related to a well-known Manchester man, the Rev. Nathaniel Banne, M.A., Chetham Librarian from 1693 to 1712, and afterwards Rector of St. Anne's in that town. Writing under date of 20th April, 1706, to Hearne, who was then an assistant in the Bodleian Library, preparing for the press his edition of Livy, Brokesby says:—"My kinsman, the library-keeper at Manchester, tells me that he is sorry the library will not afford the Paderborn or Venice edition of the thirty-third book of Livy." Brokesby's daughter, Jane, became the wife of Rd. Asheton, a merchant, of Liverpool.

The letter now to be quoted (occupying pp. 76-92 of the *Itinerary*) is made up of various notes in part put together, as the writer says, to form additions to the next issue of Camden's *Britain*. The greater part of the document is taken up with remarks on natural history. Under mineral waters, he enumerates the wiches of Cheshire and elsewhere; and he says that within a few years the virtues of the waters at Lathom, in Lancashire, were discovered. Dealing with prognostics of death, he mentions at length the case of the Breretons and the floating trees in the "black ominous mere" near Brereton Hall, commemorated by Camden and Drayton. The latter says of the lake:—"Neere before his death that's owner of the land, shee sends up stocks of trees that on the top do float." Brokesby states that he inquired after the truth of the legend from a young gentleman (son of the then Lord Brereton) about forty-five years ago.

This date takes us back to 1666; and the young nobleman would be William, the third Lord Brereton (then aged thirty-one, who succeeded his accomplished father in 1664, and who died in 1679), or one of his brothers. The mother was Elizabeth, daughter of George Lord Goring, Earl of Norwich; she was an intimate friend of Charlotte Countess of Derby, who was visiting her in 1662, and, as will shortly be seen, at an earlier date. The young gentleman gave Brokesby this short narrative:

That some years ago News being brought to his Mother that the Logs appear'd in the Mere, she was exceedingly concern'd at it; and that under that Trouble and Consternation went to my Lord in his Study; who, seeing his Ladie's Tears, and Trouble that appear'd in her Countenance, asked what the Occasion thereof was? She told him the Logs appear'd. He asking, What then? she answered, that she fear'd his death nearly approached. My Lord was without Concern, not only as a good Christian, not dismay'd with Thoughts of Death, but as he slighted such Prognosticks, as ill-grounded Fancies, having no Foundation. And withal this young gentleman told us that for several Years neither his Father died (who, if I mistake not, was then, when he told us this, alive) nor any considerable branch of his Family. This I mention to evince on what sorry grounds such Superstitious Observations are built, probably from some ill infer'd general Conclusion or some particular Accident, and consequently how little heed ought to be given to them.

Blundell, the Cavalier, stated that he had never heard the prognostic contradicted, "saving that in a long discourse which an ancient lady of that house [Brereton] made of that subject to Sherlotta, Countess of Derby, I heard her say that she did not give much credit to it." He adds that Lady Brereton seemed to ground her disbelief too much upon a proved imposture by the boatmen of the place, who had drawn people together and got money from them by playing a knavish trick.

After this, in the manner of Ralph Thoresby, the writer enumerates cases of several children at a birth; followed by instances of longevity, about which he had already had correspondence with Hearne. (Preface, p. viii.) A remarkable case cited is that of "The Old Woman in *Lancashire*, call'd the *Cricket* of the Hedge, whom Mr. *Atherton*, a Native of *Lancashire*, and his contemporary in the College, near *Dublin*, told Mr. *Dodwell* of, and that she remembered *Bosworth field*." This Mr. Atherton, the associate of Dodwell, was Richard, of Trinity College, Dublin, who entered in 1655, and who was Fellow in 1661. *Bosworth Field* was fought in 1485. Brokesby

continues his narrative by saying that he received "this following Account from a Worthy Friend, in a Letter dated *Aug. 23, 1709*, who gave me it from the Relation of a Gentleman who was a Native of the Place, where she had her residence many years, which he receiv'd from antient Neighbours, who generally agreed in their Relations." The passage from the communication is then given, thus:

She was born at *Over*, a town near *Delamere Forest* in *Cheshire*. Her Christian Name was *Margaret*, her Maid's Name unknown. She was of little stature, naturally of a pleasant, facetious Temper, her Conversation agreeable to her Family and Neighbours: always easy and content with her Condition, very careful and diligent in Business. She was some years a Servant in the Family of the *Downs* of *Shrigley*; afterwards married to one *Humphrey Broadhurst*, a Labourer in Husbandry-Work. They lived on a small Tenement in *Hedge-row* in the Township of *Rainow* [two miles N.E. of *Macclesfield*] in *Cheshire*, belonging to the *Leghs* of *Lyme*. From which Place and merry Temper she was very probably call'd *The Cricket of the Hedge*. She and her Husband, having little to subsist on, but the Fruits of their own Labour and Industry, brought up nine Children very decently, without being troublesome to their Neighbours. She was never known to be sick, nor inclined to Laziness, but would always be doing something, according to her Ability, and could walk nimbly about till a few years before her Death. Her Diet was plain, wholesome country-fare, in which she was temperate; very frequently Water Pottage (a common *Lancashire* Dish, made of Oatmeal and Water, boiled to a thick Consistence, and eaten with Milk, Butter, Drink, &c.), and in her old Age consisted much of Manchet and new milk, of which she did eat but a little at once, and pretty often. She was visited by many Persons of Quality, and others of inferior Rank, out of Curiosity. Some years before her Death Sir *George Booth* sent for her to *Dunham*, and would have kept her, and a Relation of hers, to take care of her: But after about a Month's stay, she told Sir *George* she could not live by his Diet, but must return to her old Fare, or die shortly: Towards the end of her Life she was reduced to that degree of Weakness, that she was carried as a Child in her Youngest Daughter's Arm's (who with her Husband are much commended for their constant care of her), and sometimes rock'd in a Cradle. According to the best Computation being near One Hundred and Forty years old, she died by the Gradual decays of old Age, without Pain or Sickness, at *Tower-hill* in *Rainow*, almost 60 years since, and was buried at the Parish Church, of *Prestbury*. That this Computation is very moderate is evident from the Testimony of one Mrs. *Brideoak*, sent me by Mr. *L.* She out of Curiosity visited the old Cricket, and demanding her Age, she answered, 'I was fourscore years old when I bare that Snickett (meaning her daughter then present), and she is now threescore years old.' He could not be informed how long she survived that visit.

Brokesby's further observations concern the refuse of the salt in the neighbourhood of Namptwich, where he had travelled, and the making of marl. He then expatiates on the utility of travellers observing the local words and idioms of particular districts. "My residence for many years in *York-shire*, where the language was so different from that of my native county, and other places where I had before dwelt, put me upon observing the Northern Words wherewith I was before unacquainted, which I imparted to Mr. *Ray*, after I had seen his first collection of *local Words*. These he afterwards published in his second edition thereof, *A.D.* 1691, together with some general observations I made upon them." He also treats at length of place-names; and then animadverts on the errors in the maps of Leicestershire and the East Riding in Gibson's *Camden*. Hull, e.g., he asserts is not accurately placed. "It should have been put close to the River *Hull*, which washes it on the East, especially when on the other side of that River stands its Block-houses."

In conclusion the writer makes a pleasant apology for his rambling notes. It is worth quoting: "I find I have used the Privilege and Method of travellers, who, before they set out, they pitch upon a Road which their friends have advis'd, and their own Prudence approv'd, yet do not always exactly follow it, but sometimes make excursions to gratify their own Curiosity with some delightful object, and (as they hope) their friends afterwards, with a representation of that which pleas'd themselves. If I have done this last I shall not loose my End. I shall permit it wholly to your judgment either to communicate this Paper to others, or to suppress it."

J. E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY: GIFT OF LOCAL PLAY-BILLS.

[4,353.] An interesting and valuable addition to the local section of the Central Free Library in King-street has recently been made by the gift of a considerable collection of old Manchester play-bills. They have been presented by the sons of the late Mr. William Dossa Whitehead, of this city, of whom some particulars were printed in our columns on June 27 and July 4, 1885. The bills are neatly arranged in yearly volumes, and for the most part

seem consecutive and perfect, so far as they go. There are fifteen volumes of bills of the Manchester Theatre Royal, for the years 1793, 1798, 1799, 1802, 1803, 1805, 1807; sundry bills up to 1825, 1821-2, 1824-9, 1831-40. Two volumes referring to the Minor Theatre and Queen's Theatre for 1819-20, 1823, 1827-30, 1837. A scrap-book of newspaper criticisms on theatricals and other entertainments, dated 1800; and a manuscript book recording the receipts and payments of the Theatres Royal, Manchester and Liverpool, 1841-2. The earlier part of this collection seems to have been formed by James Watson (probably the well-known person who was styled "the Doctor"), and the remainder was collected by a Mr. John Jones.

It may interest some of our readers to know that there are several other collections of local play-bills in the Reference Library. The earliest is a volume of seventy-five bills between 1775 and 1798. The late Mr. Thomas Chambers's collection of Theatre Royal bills was acquired some years ago. It embraces the whole period of Mr. Knowles's management, 1842 to 1877. There are also the bills of the Prince's Theatre from 1876 to the present day; and those of the Queen's Theatre, Bridge-street, under Mr. Salter's lesseeship, from 1876 to 1884.

In addition to the somewhat extensive Manchester series, there were in Mr. Whitehead's collection several smaller sets of playbills of other towns. These have been allocated by the Editor of this journal, to whom the distribution was confided by Mr. Whitehead's sons and executors, to the free libraries of the places interested. The Stockport playbills extend from December, 1823, to November, 1825, and they appear to have been preserved by John and Samuel Kirkham. Stockport had something like a permanent stock company during the two years embraced in the series. The bright particular star of the theatre was Miss Clara Fisher, "of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, by permission of R. W. Ellison, Esq." Her appearances were frequent, and for her benefit on one occasion she acted Goldfinch in the *Road to Ruin*, and Bombastes in the once popular farce of *Bombastes Furioso*. These shadowy but interesting reminders of the past have been placed in the Free Library at Stockport. Liverpool bills of the latter half of 1795, with some copies of the *Liverpool Theatrical Investigator* of 1821, a little daily penny periodical: Rochdale bills of 1798, and Bolton of 1832

are to be offered to the free libraries of those towns; and a series of the bills of Covent Garden and Drury Lane, London, from 1833 to 1836 inclusive, will be deposited in the British Museum.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLE ROUTE TO YORKSHIRE.

(Query No. 4,350, July 24.)

[4,354.] The best and easiest route is by Oldham 7½, Delph 13½, Marsden 18, and Huddersfield 25 miles. When once through Oldham there is a good but very hilly road. At the top of the hill past Waterhead, on the left-hand side, "J. B." will see one of the N. C. U. and C. T. C. danger boards. If he is not already a member of these bodies, I hope this will induce him to become so.

W. BINNS.

QUERIES.

[4,355.] TOTTLEBANK.—Where is Tottlebank? It is described as being in North Lancashire; but I cannot find it in the gazetteers. There was a dissenting meeting-house—Baptist, I think—there in the early part of last century.

C. W. S.

A NEW MINERAL.—General Ignatieff has presented to the Mineralogical Society of St. Petersburg a mineral recently found on his estate in the government of Elizabethgrad. It belongs to the class of aluminites, and has not hitherto been found in nature. The Russian mineralogists have named it Ignatieffite.

MEMORIAL TABLETS IN LONDON.—The Society of Arts has recently placed porcelain tablets on the fronts of houses in London which were occupied by notabilities. On 263, Hampstead Road, George Cruikshank; on 11, Bolton-street, Piccadilly, Madame D'Arblay (Fanny Burney); on Furnival's Inn, Charles Dickens; on Schomberg House (now part of the War Office, Pall Mall), Thomas Gainsborough. There are now twenty-four of the memorial tablets on houses in London, and the council of the society will be glad to hear of any more houses of the class where the owners would permit the erection of tablets.

POWERFUL WATERFALLS.—There is a proposal on foot to utilize the Falls of Clyde for the production of electricity, which would be conveyed to Lanark and supply light and power to the town. Engineers pronounce the project of tapping the Niagara river by means of a canal and bringing the water to Lockport to be practicable, and have declared that not elsewhere within the known world are there such natural advantages for the creation of a gigantic water-power, and that it can be delivered at Lockport to the extent of 300,000 horse-power, if so much shall be wanted, at a minimum of expense. Lake Erie and all the great upper lakes would be the millpond for this power—Niagara river the head race, and Lake Ontario its tail race.

Saturday, August 7, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE GIFT OF PLAY-BILLS TO THE MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.

(Note No. 4,353, July 31.)

[4,356.] Referring to the announcement that a number of old Manchester play-bills had been presented to the Reference Library, which had been collected by the late Mr. W. D. Whitehead and others, including a Mr. John Jones, whom you did not appear to know, I beg to say that Mr. Jones was a hair-dresser in Shudehill, who died very suddenly after attending a supper given by the late Mr. John Sloan, on the stage of the old Queen's Theatre, Spring Gardens, on the opening night after the theatre had been enlarged and superbly decorated. I was present on the occasion.

F.

Sale.

TOTTLEBANK.

(Query No. 4,355, July 31.)

[4,357.] Tottlebank is in North Lancashire, about four miles from the town of Ulverston, about one mile from the village of Penny Bridge, and about the same distance from Spark Bridge, and to the right of the main road from Ulverston to Coniston. There is no village of the name of Tottlebank. The name applies to a district over which a few houses are scattered, chiefly farm-houses. The chapel to which reference is made is a Baptist, adjoining which is a well used for baptisms, or dipping as it is locally termed. I have seen several adults immersed in it, and they were afterwards taken to the minister's house adjoining to get re-habilitated. The minister's name about twenty years ago was Taylor. He had then been minister a good many years. If still living he will be an old man.

W. T. P.

Oldham Road, Manchester.

* * *

Tottlebank is about five miles from Ulverston, and the same distance from Coniston Water and Windermere Lake. I have often been in the little Baptist chapel with that name, which was built in 1669, and according to the *Baptist Hand-Book* is still in existence. The chapel is about half a mile from a little village called Spark Bridge.

ELLEN C. KAY.

Rusholme.

QUERIES.

[4,358.] "THE COUNTRY FELLOW AND THE ASS." Where can a copy of this piece be found? It was spoken at the breaking-up of the Free Grammar School in Manchester.

JAMES HOLMES.

Flixton.

[4,359.] ORDSAL HALL.—Are there any timbers in the building known as Ordsal Old Hall, or in any of the offices connected with it, which originally belonged to the Manchester Old Church?

FRANCIS CASSIDY.

[4,360.] CYCLING IN SOUTH SCOTLAND.—I should feel obliged for a description of a cycling route from Carlisle to Edinburgh and from Edinburgh to Glasgow, or any portion thereof. Preference given to good surfaced roads rather than taking the shortest route.

R. H. M.

[4,361.] IRLAM HALL.—In the account of the visit of the Antiquarian Society to Irlam Hall I see it is stated that the Hall was the property of the Irlams in the fifteenth century. Can any of your readers inform me how the Irlams lost the property, and when? It would be very interesting to know whether it is possible to obtain any book containing the history of the family; for surely it cannot be that a family so old and so easily traced can be without history or legend. I am told that when the Irlams left Irlam they went to Flixton and thence to Urmston; also that the family register has been at Flixton for upwards of four hundred years, and is there at the present time. Is this a fact? I should also be glad if any reader can tell me whether the Irlams are of Saxon or Danish origin.

HARL MALRI.

[4,362.] THE COLOUR OF THE ARCTIC SEA.—The notes and queries column of the *Licensed Victuallers' Guardian* of July 31, a trade paper published in London, contains the following query:—

Can any other cause be ascribed for the Arctic Sea varying in colour from blue to olive green, sometimes opaque, in stripes, other than that of the presence of animalculæ and medusæ in countless myriads? Of course the red and purple colours sometimes seen are, no doubt, due to the penetrative powers of the solar rays, as it is possible to see objects more than 100 feet below.

Will some correspondent of the *City News* be good enough to answer the query quoted above as early as practicable?

A. A.

Saturday, August 14, 1866.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLING IN SOUTH SCOTLAND.

(Query No. 4,360, August 7.)

[4,363.] The road-books give as the route from Carlisle to Edinburgh that by Longtown 9½, Langholm 21, Hawick 43½, Selkirk 55, Lasswade 85½, and Edinburgh 91½ miles. The earlier part of this route is hilly, as it crosses the Cheviots, but it has the advantage of passing close to Melrose and Dryburgh. The gentlemen who ride from Land's End to John o'Groats in the shortest possible time go by Ecclefechan, Lockerby, Beattock, Abington and Biggar; therefore this is certain to be the easiest route. This is approximately 100 miles. If "R. H. M.," in addition to the ride, wishes to see as many interesting places as possible, I should advise him to follow the second route as far as Beattock; then go by Moffat, St. Mary's Loch, and the Yarrow to Selkirk, and there join the first route. Then, at the nearest point, make a divergence to Melrose and Dryburgh, and when nearing Edinburgh, cross over to Roslin, which he can easily do from Lasswade. He will thus see the Grey Mare's Tail (one of the finest waterfalls in Scotland), Hogg's Monument, St. Mary's Loch, Newark Castle, Melrose, Dryburgh, and Abbotsford, Roslin Chapel and Castle, and Hawthornden, all places of extraordinary interest and beauty. This route, without divergences, is approximately 120 miles.

The road-books give as the route from Edinburgh to Glasgow that by Broxburn 11, Bathgate 18, Airdrie 32, and Glasgow 42 miles. There is another direct route by Mid-Calder, but that given is certain to be the best. I should go by Linlithgow and Falkirk, about fifty miles, in order to see the palace at the former place.

Of all the palaces so fair
Built for the royal dwelling
In Scotland, far beyond compare,
Linlithgow is excelling.

Salford,

W. BINNS.

"THE COUNTRY FELLOWS AND THE ASS."

(Query No. 4,358, August 7.)

[4,364.] This piece, spoken at the breaking-up of the Free Grammar School in Manchester, was published in *The Instructive Miscellany* in the year 1803.

J. F. W.

* * *

Mr. James Holmes asks where can a copy of this piece be found? If he looks in the first volume, at page 63, of John Byrom's *Miscellaneous Poems*, published by J. Harrop, Manchester, in the year 1773, he will find it.

JAMES STELFOX.

Southport.

* * *

This piece is a poetical version of one of Æsop's fables, and is by that witty Mancunian Dr. John Byrom. Like his famous "Three Black Crows" (which was also spoken at a breaking-up of the Manchester Free Grammar School) and many of his other verses and epigrams, it is frequently quoted in books of selections and recitations, but generally in a mutilated form and without the author's name. It will be found in its integrity in any edition of John Byrom's Poems. See *Miscellaneous Poems*, vol. i., pp. 63-65 (edition two vols.; Manchester, 1773). It is there, along with five other pieces, said to have been spoken on similar occasions.

H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

QUERIES.

[4,365.] WHALLEY ABBEY.—Where can I find a ground plan of the ruins of the Abbey of Our Lady at Whalley?

J. J. ALEXANDER.

[4,366.] ANCIENT BRASSES.—Can any reader give me a list of churches in Manchester in which there are ancient brasses; and also of any churches within say a twenty-mile radius?

J. J. ALEXANDER.

[4,367.] DOLE FIELD.—A building has just been demolished at the corner of Dole Field and Bridge-street. About fifty years ago, I am told, it was known as Mendel's Hotel. After that I think it was used as a hospital. What was its original use? Why is the street called Dole Field?

INQUIRER.

[4,368.] THE SUBSOIL ROUND MANCHESTER.—Will some of your correspondents be good enough to give a little information as to the subsoil (whether sand, gravel, or clay) of a few of the districts around Manchester—such as Bramhall, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Heaton Chapel, Didsbury, Withington, Stretford, Urmston, Flixton, Prestwich, Romiley, and Marple?

G. T. W.

Saturday, August 21, 1886.

NOTES.

THE FOUNDER OF TRINITY CHAPEL, SALFORD, AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

XL.

[4,369.] 5. Of the thirteen, only two of the Founder's grandchildren have become famous, locally or otherwise—the eldest and the youngest. Robert, the eldest child of the Founder's elder adult son (Robert, who pre-deceased him), became the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Booth, Knt., Chief Justice—first, of the Common Pleas in Ireland, next of the Queen's Bench in that kingdom. Humphrey, the youngest child of the Founder's younger adult son (Humphrey, who built Booth Hall) was the "Humphrey Booth the younger," otherwise "Humphrey Booth the grandson," whose charities are still locally dispensed in pursuance of the trusts of his will (dated in 1672).

With regard to the first-named grandson, full justice has been done to him in these columns. (See not only my note, No. 3,527, of 28th June, 1884, but Mr. J. E. BAILEY's three notes, Nos. 3,552, 3,560, and 3,596, in the same year.) With regard to the other, about whom very little has been published—and scarcely anything accurate—I have materials for, at least, two notes of the average length in this series. Of the remaining eleven grandchildren I will give but the outline particulars of their undistinguished careers.

As already recorded, the Judge was baptised at the Collegiate Church, July 2, 1626. The following is a verbatim copy of the deed of appointment, as minister of Salford Chapel, of the Rev. John Hyde, the well-known local clergyman. The deed (part of my collection) is executed by the Judge and by his cousin, the Humphrey last referred to.

ROB'tus BOOTH Ar.[miger] unus Justiciar. Dom'i Regis de Com. banco suo in Hib'nia et HUMPHREDUS BOOTH de Salford in Com. Lancast., gener. Dilecto nobis in Christo Johanni Hyde Clerico salt'm in D'no Capellam de Salford pred. p. resignat. Edmundi Lees ultimi Incumbentis Eiusd'm jam vacantent et ad. uram Donationem et liberam Dispositionem plene Jure spettantem tibi prefato Johanni Hyde Conferimus eandemque [There is a short abbreviation which I cannot decipher.] Presentes cum omnibus suis Juribus membris et p'tinentijs universis tibi donamus

et disponamus adeo plene et libere prout aliquis alius Incumbens eandem hactenus habuit tenuit seu gavisus est. In Cujus re testimonium sigilla n'ra presentibus apposuimus. Dat Quarto Die Septembris A'o Regni Dom'i n'ri Carol. sec'di Del gra. Angl. Scot. franc. et hib'nie Regis fidel Defensor. &c. Decimo Octavo Annoque Dom'i 1666.

RO. BOOTH (s)

HUMPHREY BOOTH (s)

[endorsed]

Sigillat & Deliberat p. infravocat. Rob'tum Booth in pr'entia

GEO. LAMBERT, Not. Publ. (1666)

RO. HILTON

DAVID AITKIN

Sigillat et Deliberat p. infravocat. Humphredo Booth decimo quinto die Septembr. 1666 In pre'cia

EDW. DAVENPORT

RA. BRADSHAW

THOMAS HYDE

The other children of the Founder's son, Robert, were ANNE, who, bapt. Jan. 12, 1627, at the Coll. Ch., was, in 1646, married to John Sams, of London, Mercer; HUMPHREY (ancestor of the Gore-Booths), who, bapt. at the same place, Aug. 27, 1629, is mentioned, as an intended beneficiary, in the Founder's Settlement, and at the time of the will (in 1672), hereafter to be mentioned, of his cousin and namesake, was living in Ireland—a "Humphrey Booth, of Manchester," bur. at the Coll. Ch. on Sept. 1, 1680, is not, I think, identical with the Humphrey in question, nor, in fact, a descendant by any line of the Founder—JOHN, who, bapt., at the same place, Oct. 21, 1631, is also mentioned in the said Settlement, and was bur. at the Coll. Ch., May 7, 1638; and ELIZABETH, bapt., at the same place, Apr. 8, 1634, and living in 1647.

The following are the children of the Founder's son, Humphrey:—(1) ELIZABETH, bapt. at Coll. Ch., Oct. 29, 1630, and mar. at Hollinhead (by "Mr. Clayton, Minister at Blackburne"), Aug. 24, 1658, to Samuel Dickanson, of Manchester, son of Henry Dickanson, of the same place, Linen Draper; the witnesses being Edward Warren, Esq. (of Poynton), Henry Dickanson, Alexr. Davie, Benjamin Wrigley, and others [Coll. Ch. Register]; (2) MARY, bapt. at Coll. Ch., July 27, 1632, mar. first (at Stockport Ch., May 30, 1653) to John Oldfield, of Manchester, Woollen Draper (of whose descent, property, and marriage settlement I have full particulars), by which marriage she left several children (one of her descendants being the Humphrey Oldfield [whose biographer I hope to be], founder

of the Trinity Church Library); secondly (at the Coll. Ch., Feb. 16, 1663) to Edward Davenport, of Salford, gent., "Bachelor in Medicine," whom in 1666 she predeceased, and by whom she left a daughter, Mary (placed by Mr. Booker under a wrong parentage)—by her will, of which I have other particulars, Mrs. Davenport gave £5 to the poor of Salford, and £2 to the poor of Manchester—(3 & 4) ANN and SUSANNAH, spinsters, of whom I have several notes; (5) SARAH, bapt. (the first baptism there) at Salford Chapel, May 24, 1635, mar. to James Davenport, of Sutton, in Cheshire, Esquire, and is often mentioned as executrix and administratrix; (6) REBECCA, who, bapt. at Salford Chapel, May 4, 1637, died unmarried, and, by her will, of which I have also other particulars, gave, among other legacies, £10 to the poor of Manchester, £10 to the poor of Salford, and £3 to the Rev. John Angier, the famous minister of Denton; (7) HUMPHREY, bapt. at the same place, Apr. 25, 1639, and bur. there Dec. 7 in the same year; and (8) another HUMPHREY, bapt. at his father's house in Blackley, Dec. 28, 1640 [Coll. Ch. reg.]

Of this latter Humphrey, the youngest grandchild of the Founder, I have many unpublished particulars, and, as he has become famous by reason of his charities, he shall (with our Editor's permission) receive somewhat lengthened notice. If I cannot compress them into one note, these particulars, or the more interesting of them, will form the next two—the last (exclusive of a note on the Founder's *Inq. post mort.*)—of my notes in this present series.

The following, from a contemporary copy in my possession, is a transcript of the Will which has made this grandson of the Founder the locally celebrated man he has become. I am not aware that this important Will has ever been before published in full: *Gastrell* gives an extract from it.

In the Name of God Amenn; I Humphrey Booth of Salford in ye Countey of Lanckaster the Unprofitable servt of God doe make and ordaine this my Last will & Testament In Manner and forme following; My Body I desire may be Inter'd In ye Chappell of Salford If I dye within Tenn Miles of ye Place and for my Estate in ye World wch the Lord hath beene Pleased to Intrust me with I Bequeath as followeth Item I give & bequeath unto my Coz Humphrey Booth second sonne of my Uncle Robt. Booth now Inhabitting in Ireland all my Reall Estate Lyeing & being In Blakeley In ye Parrish of Manchester Item I give & bequeath my House & Croft in ye Gravell Hole within Salford and those floure Closes and Barne Lyeing and being neare the Broken Banke together wth one Roode Land wch

hath A Well In it Com'only Called Oldfeild's Well wthin Salford now In y^e Occupation of Geo. Richardson to be Imployed towards all Repaires of y^e Chappell of Salford and in Case there be Any Overpluss, then my Will & Mind is that it shall be Destributed amongst the poore of Salford at A Christmas as y^e Monyes Left by my Grandffather is, Item I give & bequeath unto my Lov: Sistr Mrs Sarah Davenport One Hundrd pounds to buy her A Juell Item I give & bequeath unto my Loveing Nephew John Oldfeild the sum'e of Three Hundrd pound Item I give & Bequeath unto my Lov: Nephew Humphrey Oldfeild Three Hundrd pounds and my House at Salford Bridge foot Item I give & bequeath unto my Lov: Coz Tho: Oldfeild Three Hundrd pounds Item I give & bequeath unto my Lov: neece Mary Davenport The som'e of Thre Hundrd pounds Item I give & bequeath unto my Servt Alex Smith the sum'e of tenn pounds & mourneing Item my Will & Mind is that my Loveing Brothr in Law James Davenport Esqr and my Sister His Wiffe & those four Children [John, Humphrey, and Thomas Oldfeild and Mary Davenport] that I am Uncle Unto & my Executors shall have Morening Item I give & bequeath To my Loveing ffreind Mr Tho: Minshall Junior The sum'e of One Hundrd pounds & to my Lov: ffreind Mr Nathan^{ll} Leech One Hundrd pounds & Desire Mr Minshall & Mr Leech to see this my Will performed and I desire my Executors as my Trust is in them to take Care of those Children that I am Uncle Unto Item I give & bequeath unto my Loveing ffreind Mr Wm Barsley the sum'e of twenty pounds and Desire him to Assist my Executors to see this my Will performed Item I give & bequeath the Remainder of my Estate to be Equally Devided betwixt Humprey Oldfeild & Tho: Oldfeild in Wittness whereof I have putt to my Hand & Seale this 3th of March 1672.

HUMPHREY BOOTH

In the presents of
MARY BEECH
FRANCIS + BAXTER
her Marke

The Will was a holograph one; and, on account of its technical ambiguity in several clauses, gave the lawyers of the time considerable trouble—if well-paid research and inquiry may be called “trouble.” The opinions were sought and obtained of Sir William Jones, Serjeants Maynard and Conyers, Mr. Pemberton, and others; the practical unanimity of the opinions of which distinguished jurists had, it would appear, the effect of saving the estate from a costly Chancery suit, or, possibly, a series of costly Chancery suits.

C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.

24, Brown-street, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

WHALLEY ABBEY.

(Query No. 4,365, August 14.)

[4,370.] J. J. ALEXANDER asks where can he find a ground-plan of Whalley Abbey and the ruins of

the Abbey of Our Lady at Whalley. I shall be pleased to show him such; also of the Abbey Church of Cartmel, which belonged to the same order, the Cistercian.

W. KEMP.

154, Stretford Road.

DOLE FIELD.

(Query No. 4,367, August 14.)

[4,371.] The house just taken down in Bridge-street, at the corner of Dole Field, was, sixty or seventy years ago, Mr. Philips's town house. His country house was the Dales, Prestwich, now the residence of Mr. Leake, M.P. The house in Bridge-street was converted into an hotel, and still later into the Children's Hospital, before its removal to Pendlebury. Mr. Philips was brother to the late Mr. Robert Philips, of the Park, Prestwich. L.

ORDSALL HALL.

(Query No. 4,359, August 7.)

[4,372.] F. CASSIDY asks whether there are, in the building known as Ordsall Old Hall, any timbers which originally belonged to the Manchester Old Church. This question has previously been asked in the columns of the *City News*. Hollingworth in his *Mancuniensis* (ed. 1839, p. 44) writes:—“About this time (i.e., about the middle of the fifteenth century), or not long before, for ought appears ended, the present large and stately stone building, which we call the Church, being formerly a vast wooden building not much unlike (save that probably it was more adorned) to the Bothes where the Courte Leete, Court Baron, of the Lord, and the quarter sessions, are now kept: Credible tradition sayth the one part of the said wooden building was removed to Oardsall, another part to Clayton; but the maine body was removed to Trafford, which is standing to this day, and now called the Greate Barne.” The parts were given, it is said, to Sir John Le Byron of Clayton Hall, Sir John de Ratcliff of Ordsall Hall, and Edmund de Trafford.

Most of the historians of the Old Church, I believe, follow Hollingworth, and state that this “credible tradition” is correct. It is, however, I believe, a disputable point. Our worthy townsman, Mr. John Owen, examined some years ago the so-called remains of the Old Church, and came to the conclusion that they were not part of the Old Church.

ERNEST KERR.

QUERIES.

[4,373.] **THYINEWOOD AND BRYONY.**—In the account recently of the Field Naturalists' visit to Malvern and Tewkesbury mention is made of the thyine-wood tree seen at Eastnor, and the bryony. I should like to know something more about these, being specially puzzled regarding "white bryony" and "black bryony." **HEDGE ROSE.**

[4,374.] **A LAMP-LIGHT PROBLEM.**—A person stands between two tables in a large room; on each table stands a lamp, one giving out four times as much light as the other. In what position between them must he be to receive an equal amount of light from each; and, moving to another place, what course must he take to always receive an equal quantity of light from each lamp?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

ROADS AND ROUTES.

In consequence of the recurring inquiries for cycling or driving routes which have already been given in these columns, we give the following list. The files of the paper can be consulted on application to the office of the paper, or the volumes of the *City News* or the reprint of *Notes and Queries* can be referred to at the Central Free Library in King-street:—

To Blackpool	Sept. 12, 1885
Carlisle	May 20, 1882
Harrogate	Aug. 4, 1883
High Wycombe.....	May 9, 1885
Lincoln	May 9, 1885
Llandudno.....	June 16, 1883
London (driving).....	April 1, 1882
London (cycling)	Aug. 22, 1885
Monmouth.....	July 4, 1885
Norfolk	June 23, 1883
North Wales (from Chester).....	June 12, 1886
Nottingham	Aug. 8, 1885
Southport	June 21, 1884
South Scotland (from Carlisle)...	Aug. 14, 1886
Tutbury.....	Oct. 13, 1883
Worksop.....	May 22, 1886
Yorkshire (Huddersfield)	July 31, 1886

MR. RUSKIN ON HIS ILLNESSES.—To a new number of *Proserpina* (Studies of Wayside Flowers) Mr. Ruskin appends the following note:—"Life is really too disgustingly short. One has only got one's materials together by the time one can no more use them. But let me say, once for all, in closing this fragment of work old and new, that I beg my friends very earnestly never to mind paragraphs about me in the public papers. My illnesses, so-called, are only brought on by vexation or worry (for which said friends are often themselves in no small degree answerable), and leave me, after a few weeks of wandering thoughts, much the same as I was before, only a little sadder and wiser!—probably, if I am spared till I am seventy, I shall be as sad and wise as I ever wish to be, and will try to keep so to the end." This note is dated Brantwood, August 10, 1886.

Saturday, August 28, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

A LAMP-LIGHT PROBLEM.

(Query No. 4,374, August 21.)

[4,375.] Under the head of "Photometry or Illuminating Power," in Mr. Newbigging's *Gas Engineers' Handbook* (fourth edition, p. 248), the law which regulates the illumination of bodies is thus succinctly stated:—"Lights which equally illuminate an object are to each other as the square of their distance from such object." Applying this rule to Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY's problem, let it be assumed, for the sake of explanation, that the two lamps are nine feet apart. It follows, according to the rule, that in order to receive an equal amount of light from the two lamps whose light-giving properties are as four to one, the object to be illuminated would have to be at two-thirds the distance, or six feet, from the greater light; and at one-third the distance, or three feet from the lesser light. Thus:—

$$6^2 = 36, \text{ and } 3^2 = 9, \text{ or as } 4 \text{ to } 1.$$

The rule, of course, holds good whatever the distance between the lights, and in whatever relative position of the room the object to be illuminated is placed.

J. F. COCKS.

Lime View, Romiley.

BRYONY.

(Query No. 4,373, August 21.)

[4,376.] **HEDGE-ROSE** asks for the difference between "White Bryony" and "Black Bryony." The epithet "white," applied to the former, is altogether superfluous, since the plant so called is purely and sufficiently "Bryony." The other, the so-called "Black Bryony," is not a Bryony at all. The two names, it must be acknowledged, are of very considerable antiquity, but they were bestowed before there was any exact or scientific discrimination of plants. It is time now to dismiss "Black Bryony" from botanical nomenclature. The Latin name of the plant, *Tamus*, is quite as easy to learn and pronounce, and if always employed, the perplexity encountered by **HEDGE-ROSE** and probably many besides, would never be felt.

Bryony, strictly and sufficiently so called, is a member of the exceedingly beautiful and interesting botanical family called the Cucurbitaceæ. The most conspicuous and important examples of this family are found in the cucumber, the melon, the gourd in its various kinds, and the vegetable-marrow.

The curious skeletons of dried gourd-like fruits sold in the apothecaries' shops for use as flesh-brushes, under the name of "luffas" are obtained from another species of the same group. In habit, foliage, and fruit, the Cucurbits are strikingly like the passion-flowers: they agree with the latter also in the possession, very generally, of tendrils. The tendrils, in both families, are very different from those of vetches and peas. Tendrils, it may be observed, wherever they may occur, are never to be regarded as new and independent organs. They are simply modifications of some other organ, usually of the leaf, or of the peduncle of the flowers, these last-named parts being transformed into climbing instruments in order to meet the special exigencies of the plant. In vetches and peas they are portions of what might have been leaflets. In the Gloriosa and the Mutisias they are prolongations of the narrow leaves. In the Cucurbits, as in the passion-flowers, they consist of simple coils, produced from the axils of the leaves, often several inches in length, and when not stretched out by the dragging weight or the onward growth of the stems, wound so close as to form spiral tubes that resemble bell-springs. Among our British wild-flowers Bryony stands alone in respect of its possession of this most elegant of all the varieties of the tendril. Everywhere else, *i.e.*, in the peas and vetches, in the little *Corydalis claviculata*, and in the Traveller's joy, the tendrils are more or less of a straggling character. Bryony tendrils, *per contra*, are always a pretty if not charming object of contemplation; so shapely are the emerald spirals, so lightsome and graceful in the hither and thither play which comes of their suppleness and elasticity. Once taking hold, they never leave go. If sometimes they seem to slacken, it is only to prove the next moment that they are incapable of failure, and that when the emergency is most pressing, then is their quiet love the strongest and most trustworthy. A very interesting feature in the twining, both in the Cucurbit and the passion-flower tendrils, is that they are apt to curl first one way, and then the contrary, changing the direction in the middle of the spire, and thus obtaining a more certain grip.

No plants grow more rapidly than the Cucurbits, or cover an equal space of ground in so short a space of time, a fact explained by their natural habitat being amid the boughs and branches of trees, for mounting into which their power-

ful clasping so admirably adapt them, and which is illustrated in the most captivating manner in the East Indies, where the family has its finest examples. In many parts of England the Bryony covers the hedges by midsummer with a rich drapery of dark green, mantling them with a rapidity such as we associate ordinarily with the idea only of tropical plants. The root is large, tuberous, and perennial. The stems and branches are only annual. The leaves, by means of which, in connection with the tendrils, Bryony is at once identified, are 3—6 inches across, more or less deeply divided into five or seven broad and angular lobes (the middle lobe longer than the others), and rough upon both surfaces. The flowers are star-shaped, yellowish green, half an inch to over an inch in diameter, and borne in little clusters of 3—6. As in other cucurbitaceous plants, the stamens and pistils are contained in different flowers, and in this particular species the entire plant is unisexual, whence the full botanical name of *Bryonia dioica*. The females are readily distinguished by the large, round, green ovary beneath the blossom. When ripe, in autumn, the ovary becomes a dull red berry, the size of a pea.

Being common throughout central and southern Europe, and extending eastwards as far as the Caucasus, Bryony was well known to the herbalists of antiquity. It is described by Dioscorides and by Pliny, with accounts of its medicinal qualities, real or supposed, and the writers of the sixteenth century of course follow suit. In more recent times the ancient reputation seems to have declined. Lindley, in the *Flora Medica*, 1838, says "Bryony is not admitted into the British Pharmacopoeias, but is a frequent instrument in the practice of quack doctors in the country." Squire, in 1864, Dr. Farre, in his edition of Pereira, 1865, and Dr. Wahlstuch, 1868, make not the slightest allusion to it. Dr. C. D. F. Phillips, on the other hand, in his *Materia Medica and Therapeutics*, 1874, p. 225, gives many details in favour. "Bryonia" is also esteemed by the homœopathists. An excellent drawing—the first ever produced—of this beautiful and curious plant is given by old Fuchsius, in his *Historia*, 1542, temp. Henry VIII., p. 94, and a very good one, coloured, in Stevenson and Churchill, who also recognize the medicinal value. There are about a dozen other species, all of them elegant climbers, natives, chiefly, of the East Indies and the Cape of

Good Hope. One kind occurs in the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres.

The British dioica, around which there gather so many pleasing associations, though generally diffused, except in Scotland and Ireland, is in some parts of the country, as about Manchester, rather uncommon. Of course it is a mere coincidence, but I have never failed to notice Bryony in the vicinity of our ancient cathedral cities, mounting the hedgerows in quiet lanes, such as are the homes of the white evening lychnis and the azure speedwell, the delicate green petals laced after the same sweet fashion as those of the henbane and the Lancashire cranesbill, the hues alone different, and the bloom so abundant that every leaf has had its little accompanying handful of the pretty stars. The young botanist will find the arrangement of the stamens very curious and instructive, and will note also the rather unusual articulations of the flower, ovary, and peduncle. The name, 2,000 years old, refers to the rapidity of the growth, Bryony signifying literally that which shoots forth freely. This accounts for the application of the name in the Elizabethan age, not only to the plants before us, but to certain species also of the Convolvulaceæ.

As regards mention of the plant by the poets, the only instance I can recall is the following, in Ben Jonson's "Vision of Delight." Some kind reader of the *City News* may perhaps be able to quote other examples:—

I have not seen the place could more surprise,
More beautiful in nature's various dyes.
Lo, the blue bindweed doth itself enfold
With honeysuckle, and both these entwine
Themselves with bryony and jessamine,
To cast a kind and odoriferous shade.

"Black Bryony," so called, is the *Tamus communis*, one of the very interesting family, chiefly tropical, known as the Dioscoreaceæ, the typical species being *Dioscorea edulis*, the source of the celebrated esculent called the yam. The root-stocks in all the 160 species of the order are very large and usually tuberous; the stems are slender, usually annual, and climb by spiral twining to a length of many yards; the leaves are broad and net-veined; the flowers are small, greenish, racemose, and six-parted. Our beautiful British representative of the order deviates from the typical idea only in the fruit, which ordinarily is capsular, but in the genus before us, baccate. No plant growing wild in this country, not even the Bryony, is more elegant in its ways and aspect, or

more pleasing to watch while in course of development. The young shoots come up tenderly in April and May. When about a yard high, slim, green, and pliant, they bend and coil sideways, and seem little vegetable snakes. By degrees they ascend bushes and small trees, till the extremities reach far above our heads, many often wreathing together, like those of honeysuckle, while others swing in festoons, or blend in such a way as to make the plant seem a descending stream of shining foliage, poured from a hidden spring, and the very gloss of which has a cool and refreshing effect. Field-naturalists who were in Dovedale on Bank-holiday, August, 1884, will remember the charming complexion it presented that cheerful time. The leaves are cordate, essentially, but no plant furnishes so many curious and pretty varieties, some being long and narrow, while others are broad and rounded. The petioles supply beautiful ribbon-like spiral vessels, which, when properly prepared, become fine objects for the polariscope. The minute green flowers, like those of Bryony, are dioecious, but very different in feature, the staminate ones being borne in slender racemes, often a foot in length (remarkably attractive in the lanes between Ledbury and Eastnor on the occasion of the Whitsuntide trip), while those of the female plants are nearly sessile in the axils of the leaves, clustered several together. When ripe, the fruits become bright scarlet; they are considerably larger than peas, rudely triangular, and hang together like little bunches of grapes; very brilliant for many weeks in the hedgerows, by that time nearly leafless. This beautiful plant is widely distributed, occurring all over Europe, in North Africa, and in temperate Asia. A second species occurs in the Canary Isles.

LEO GRINDON.

QUERIES.

[4,377.] INVENTION OF PADDLE-WHEELS.—I have an engraving by G. Longhi, date 1813. It represents Galatea with sea nymphs. Galatea is sailing upon a large shell which is propelled by paddle-wheels. Were paddle-wheels invented before 1813, or has the painter given the mechanic a wrinkle? Was Longhi a celebrated engraver? INQUIRER.

[4,378.] THE NORRIS PAPERS.—A selection from these papers was published in 1846 by the Chetham Society. In the introduction the Editor (Thomas

Heywood, Esq.) stated that a portion of the original MSS. was then in the possession of "Mr. Norris of Manchester." Who is the present representative of this Mr. Norris, and where are the MSS. referred to?

H. FISHWICK.

The Heights, Rochdale.

[4,379.] **AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.**—In the description of a voyage from Henley to Windsor, in the *City News* of August 7, I notice the lines:—

That looked as though an angel in his upward flight
Had left his mantle floating in mid-air.

I once heard the late G. E. Lomax, temperance lecturer, give the same quotation, and thought it was his own inspiration at the time. Can any reader tell me whence the couplet is taken from, and where the entire poem can be obtained?"

WILLIAM PARSONS.

New Mills.

[4,380.] **GATES OF STRANGWAYS HALL.**—During a conversation with some friends the other evening, and whilst comparing notes on certain localities in and around Manchester, Strangeways Hall was mentioned, when the question arose as to what had become of the beautiful gates that stood at the entrance thereof. My own impression was, and is, that they were purchased by the late Sir James Watts for, and used by him as, the entrance gates to Abney Hall, Cheadle; some of my friends asserting, on the contrary, that they were at Peel Park. We should be glad to know what really has become of those gates, which were admittedly of very superior design and workmanship.

THOMAS PEEL HAIGH.

[4,381.] **SADDLEWORTH AND ITS WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE.**—In the interesting sketch of "A Ramble on the Moors," which appeared in this journal last week, your valued correspondent, Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY, makes a statement which surprised me not a little, and that is where, referring to the manufacture of broad and narrow woollen cloth, he says: "Not a yard of either kind of cloth is made in the whole township of Saddleworth." As I have never before heard of any extensive discontinuance of that branch of industry in Saddleworth, I was, as I have said, not a little surprised at the statement, and I should like to know whether Mr. BRIERLEY includes Greenfield, Uppermill, Dobcross, and Delph in the phrase "township of Saddleworth." It would be interesting also to know the cause or causes of the

disappearance of such manufacture from the district, and whether the inhabitants have been impoverished thereby, or have only had to change the nature of their employment. If Mr. BRIERLEY should feel that to answer these questions would be to anticipate the history upon which he is engaged, and for which we ought to wait, perhaps he will be kind enough to give us some idea when that work will be published.

OBSERVER.

Withington.

WILLIAM PENN'S GRAVE.—The *Bucks Herald*, in an account of excursions by the Society of Cyclists in the neighbourhood of Chalfont St. Giles, says that Mrs. Hepworth Dixon, accompanied by two gentlemen and Mr. S. Dixon, walked over the hills to see the burial place of Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. This was Mrs. Dixon's first visit to the grave of him whose fair fame was vindicated by her husband against the misstatements of Lord Macaulay. The lime trees surrounding the little half acre of ground completely hide it from casual passers-by on the road. The watchman in the cottage hard by offered his visitors a dish of black cherries, and led them through the plain-roomed "meeting house," where the Friends always assemble twice a year, to the inner chamber, where the secret session is held. Throughout the day there was a constant succession of visitors to see the modest grass mound under which William and Hannah Penn, surrounded by the Penningtons, the Ellwoods (Thomas and Mary), the Mastermans, and their five children have slept unmolested for more than a century and a half.

THE CROSSING OF WHEAT AND RYE.—Experiments in the crossing of wheat and rye have been carried out on the farm of the *Rural New Yorker* since 1882, when the pollen of rye was carefully applied to the pistils of some wheat plants, under conditions preventing the ordinary self-fertilization. Ten more or less imperfect kernels were formed and matured as the result of the experiment, and of these nine grew when planted for the ensuing season. Eight of them resembled wheat more than rye, though all were more or less bearded. All were similar in appearance; but when the produce of the best of them was planted and grew in the following year, the straw and ears and the habit of growth differed as greatly as if all the varieties of wheat in cultivation had been sown together. In 1884, and again in 1885, some of the rye-wheat plants were re-crossed with rye, so that the latest result was the production of plants three-quarters rye and one-quarter wheat, and the produce thus obtained has been grown for the present harvest. Several years will probably be required to establish fixed types of any of the varieties of the hybrid cereal, and it remains to be seen whether the result will be in any way beneficial, however interesting it may be from a scientific point of view. The idea appears to have been that a hardy and prolific variety of wheat and a large-kernelled strain of rye might both be produced by the hybridization. The latter result seems the more likely of the two.

Saturday, September 4, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AUTHORSHIP OF LINES.

(Query No. 4,379, August 28.)

[4,382.] Mr. WILLIAM PARSONS will find the quotation he is in quest of at page 169 of *Basil: a Tragedy*, in a series of plays by Joanna Baillie, fifth edition, published in 1806 by Longmans. It runs:—

VICTORIA: How beautiful those pretty snowy clouds!

BASIL (looking at her): Of a most dazzling brightness!

VICTORIA: Nay, nay, a veil that tempers heaven's brightness,

Of softest, purest white.

BASIL: As though an angel in his upward flight

Had left his mantle floating in mid-air.

Let me take the opportunity to direct the attention of your numerous readers to Mr. Leo Grindon's prose-poem on *Comus*, which ennobles your last week's issue. If your paper had contained nothing more it would be worth obtaining and retaining for the value of this contribution, so scholarly, so sympathetic, so cultured.

J. B. GREENWOOD.

Whalley Range.

SADDLEWORTH AND ITS WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE.

(Query No. 4,381, August 28.)

[4,383.] The township of Saddleworth which, from ancient time till 1853, bore the name of Quick in all official documents, consists of four "meres," or divisions, each mere having one overseer, and it includes Greenfield, Uppermill (Over-Milne), Dobcross, and Delph. The township is a Poor-law Union in itself, and has, if I remember rightly, seven elected, or, say, representative guardians, and a host of ex-officio who never attend any board meetings except when there happens to be some patronage to dispose of. This is a custom, I believe, in most Unions. I may just mention that the aged and honoured Duke of Devonshire attends and diligently applies himself to the business of the board, almost every meeting of the guardians, in the Ulverston Union.

The history of the decline and extinction of the broad and narrow cloth manufacture is a painful as well as interesting one. I cannot give it here. Other processes of manufacture—cotton spinning, flannel, coarse shawls (plain and fancy), and fancy woollens—are now the prevalent occupations of the inhabitants. The general condition of the people was, perhaps, never more prosperous or physically comfortable than it is now. With all that there is much grumbling

amongst well-to-do-folks about trade. The habit is getting chronic, and must be borne with as best it can. Maybe some abatement of the disease will accrue through the beneficent labours of General Booth's people and Gipsy Smith's, recently initiated.

MORGAN BRIERLEY,

THE GATES OF STRANGWAYS HALL.

(No. 4,380, August 28.)

[4,384.] I remember the beautiful iron gates of Strangeways Hall very well, when they stood in front of the hall, with a large tree close by them which partly overhung the footpath in Strangeways. The same gates were removed to Peel Park in Salford, where they now stand at the main entrance to the park.

EDWIN WAUGH.

Meggernie Castle, near Aberfeldy, N.B.

* * *

A correspondent of yours writes to inquire about the old gates at Strangeways Hall. I fancy I can give the best information respecting them. I bought the interior of the Old Hall, such as the oak staircases, oak chimney-pieces, marble hearth-stones, and oak floorings; in fact what went to build my present black and white house in Burnage Lane. I should have bought the gates had not Lord Ducie given them as a present to Peel Park. They stand at the Pendleton end of the park.

JAMES BEARD.

The Grange, Burnage Lane, Levenshulme.

* * *

When Strangeways Hall was taken down to make room for the Assize Courts, the gates, which are of beautifully wrought-iron work, were removed to the second entrance to Peel Park, where they now remain. On a shield upon them are the arms of the Moretons, Lords Ducie. Argent, a chevron gules, between three square buckles sable. Lord Ducie inherited the Strangeways estates from the heiress of the Reynolds, who, a little more than a century since, owned the property.

L.

* * *

The gates of Strangeways Hall are unquestionably at Peel Park. They are large, but light, elegant, and beautiful in design; in fact they are simply beautiful. We have, so far as design and workmanship are concerned, nothing to approach them in the neighbourhood for lightness and elegance. They ought to have been the principal entrance gates. The stone pillars are equally chaste and in beautiful harmony with the gates; in fact the pillars and gates form an

elegant and compact whole. I knew the gates long before they went to Peel Park. The principal gates there are not fit to be named against them.

WILLIAM H. STONE.

Park Avenue, Slade Lane, Levenshulme.

A LAMP-LIGHT PROBLEM.

(Nos. 4,374 and 4,375.)

[4,385.] The rule which is applicable to the solution of this not unimportant problem, as quoted by Mr. COCKS from Mr. Newbigging's excellent *Gas Engineer's Handbook*, is quite correct in substance, but hardly grammatically enunciated. Neither Euclid, nor his great restorer, Dr. Robert Lünson, nor Sir Isaac Newton, had he made the discovery of it, would have so stated the law. It would be more correctly expressed in this way: Lights which equally illuminate any object are to each other in power or intensity as the squares of their respective distances from such object are to one another. Better still, because more simply, would it be to say: Light varies in intensity inversely as the square of the distance from its origin. It would seem a little strange, considering his many experiments in optics, and the identity of the law to that of universal gravitation, that Newton should not have made the discovery. It was due to Peter Bouguer, an eminent French mathematician, who published it in 1729, (being then 31 years of age), two years after the death of Newton. The young man was indeed a prodigy of mathematical genius, having been an instructor in the science in the Jesuits' College of Vannes, when only eleven years of age.

I do not find any mention of the law in the second edition of Mr. Newbigging's book, but it may be reasonably expected that a bright, perennially-youthful soul like his will be continually making improvements. It may be that my opinion upon the matter is not worth much, having mainly been concerned with another kind of "gas" rather than that Mr. N. so well understands, but I embrace this opportunity of respectfully saying, that his *Handbook* is the best with which I am acquainted, abounding, as it does, in variety, copiousness, and accuracy of information.

It is worthy of remark that "the law of the inverse square," as it has been called, applies in the same way to heat that it does to light and gravitation. Professor Tyndall has irrefutably established

the doctrine that heat, electricity, and magnetism are "modes of motion." What are light and gravitation but "modes of motion?" May it not be that life, in its universality, is but a "mode of motion?"

Changed through all things, and yet in all the same;
Great in the earth, as in the ethereal frame;
Warms in the sun, refreshes in the breeze,
Glow in the stars and blossoms in the trees;
Lives through *all life*, extends through all extent,
Spreads undivided, operates unspent;
Breathes in our soul, informs our mortal part,
As full, as perfect in a hair as heart.

Then see how beautifully "the law of the inverse square" tallies with the eternal, abstract, Euclidian truth of what the famous Dr. John Dee ecstatically called Megethologia, but which plain folks call geometry—"Circles are to one another as the squares of their diameters;" whence a *given* force at the centre, emanating or radiating in all directions equally, must *necessarily* diminish in proportion to the square of the distance traversed.

Now, then, with respect to this particular problem. In Leslie's *Geometry*, Bk. vi., Prop. 19, will be found a method of dividing a given line, Ll, in a duplicated ratio of *m* to *n* (the two lights); that is, $LP^2 : Pl^2 :: m : n$; —P, then, is the point in a straight line between the two lights, where unequal amounts of illumination are received from them. There is a pathway in the room, and only one, around the lesser light, to every point of which each lamp radiates an equal quantity of light. This path-line it is required to determine, from any point in which, lines drawn to the two lights L, l, must have an invariable ratio to each other. Extend the straight line Ll to Q, from L through l, so that $LQ : lQ :: LP : Pl$, which ratio has already been determined. Q, outside both lamps, obviously, according to the law, receives an equal amount of light from each. Describe a circle upon PQ as a diameter, O being the centre thereof. From *any* point R in the circumference of the circle draw the lines RL, Rl, to each light, and join the points O, R.

Then, since $LP : Pl :: LQ : lQ :: m : n$, by a law of proportion, we have $LQ - LP \{ = PQ \} : LP :: lQ - Pl \{ = 2 Ol \} : Pl$.—Again, $\frac{1}{2} PQ \{ = OP \} : LP :: \frac{1}{2} (lQ - Pl = Ol) : Pl$.—Also, $Pl + Ol \{ = OP \} : Ol :: LP + PO \{ = LO \} : OP$.—But OP, being a radius of the circle, is equal to OR, another radius, which forms one side of the triangle OIR, as also, one side of the triangle ORL, that is to say, it is common to

both triangles.—Hence, $OR : Ol :: LO : OR$; consequently, by Euclid Bk. vi., prop. 5, the triangles OLR , ORL , are similar to one another, and therefore $RL : Rl :: LO : OR :: LO : OP :: LP : Pl$ — OR being always equal OP , the locus of R is the circle described upon QP .—Q. E. D.

My apology, if apology be required, for the introduction of mathematics into the Notes and Queries columns of the *City News*, is to minister in some small degree to the recreation and enjoyment of those who have a taste for the study, and to make a modest but earnest attempt to create such a taste where it does not already exist, in the minds of those who have any desire to cultivate and improve their reasoning faculties. If poets, didactic writers of prose (leader writers for instance!), politicians, and preachers would only once a month, say, ponder over and make themselves thoroughly master of a proposition similar to the one above, they would soon learn to give to their much-afflicted readers and listeners something better than a continuous round of delusive and deluding twaddle and babble, which are the things we mainly get from them now-a-days.

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

Denshaw House.

* * *

Answer to the second part of the query:—The course to be taken to receive an equal quantity of light from each lamp must be a circle whose centre is on the outer side of the smaller lamp, at a distance from it equal to one-third of the distance between the lamps; and the radius of this circle must be equal to two-thirds of the distance between the lamps. This result may be tested and confirmed by an accurate drawing to scale. It follows from the solution by Analytical Geometry of the problem: "Find the *locus* of a point which moves so that its respective distances from two fixed points have the constant ratio of two to one." Mathematical readers will recognize in Mr. Newbigging's law of illuminating power a simpler version of "the intensity of light varies inversely as the square of the distance."

W. THOMAS BURGOYNE.

Summer-street, Upper Brook-street, C.-on-M.

THE INVENTION OF PADDLE-WHEELS.

(Query No. 4,377, August 28.)

[4,386.] The use of paddle-wheels dates from time immemorial. The ancient Egyptians, and after them the Romans, made use of them in their war galleys. I have a vague recollection of having seen somewhere

in Egypt, perhaps in the Boulak Museum, a representation in bas-relief of one of these boats propelled by wheels, worked by oxen, after the manner of the *sakiyeh*, or Persian wheel. Seeing one of these wheels at work, or, more likely, the rude wheel with flat wooden floats, overhanging a river, and used to turn corn mills, such as I have seen in Syria, it would be easily suggested to such engineers as those who built the Pyramids, or those who found means to transport from the quarry the great trilithon in the Temple of the Sun at Baalbec, that the machines could be substituted for the oar in the movement of boats. In the history of steam navigation, there is an account of one Captain Blasco de Garay, who, in 1543, found means to propel a ship of 200 tons burthen by steam(!), in all probability by the use of paddle-wheels. In 1788, Patrick Miller, an ingenious Scotch engineer, "having previously experimented with boats propelled by the power of men and horses applied to paddle-wheels, resolved to make a steam-engine do the work."

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

* * *

The engraver Longhi was certainly uninspired when he designed the plate alluded to by INQUIRER. A writer in the *Penny Cyclopædia* has the following remarks upon the application of the paddle-wheel to the propulsion of vessels:—"Closely connected with the application of the steam-engine to the purpose of propelling vessels, is the use of revolving paddles or similar contrivances in lieu of oars. Although no such means of propulsion have ever been extensively adopted except in connection with steam-power, they have been repeatedly tried, and more frequently recommended, in connection with other prime-movers, for rendering the progress of a vessel in some degree independent of wind and tide. It has been asserted that boats with paddle-wheels turned by oxen within the vessel were known to the ancient Egyptians, and that they are represented in some Egyptian tombs; but the writer is not acquainted with any such representation, and it is possible that some mistake may have given rise to the statement. Be this as it may, wheel-boats impelled either by oxen, horses, or men, were known to the Romans. The rare and curious work of Valturius *De Re Militari*, which was published in 1472, contains representations of two wheel-boats, one of which has one pair of wheels, and the other five pair. The wheels consist of four

paddles each, and are turned by cranks in their axles; and in the second boat the five cranks are connected together by a rope, so that their motion may be simultaneous. Such boats are alluded to by some other early writers on military subjects, as advantageous for the conveyance of troops. That wheel-boats have long been known to the Chinese may be presumed from the *Memoirs* of the Jesuit missionaries at Peking. In the eighth volume of that work, which was published at Paris in 1782, appeared an engraving and description of a vessel of war, which is called "Barque à Roues," and has two paddle-wheels on a side, turned by men (pl. xx., fig. 94). The writer remarks (p. 343) that this might give rise to some useful invention for moving vessels during calms; observing that if they could be thus propelled for only one league, it might suffice to remove them from a bad position. Many writers have recommended the use of paddle-wheels or revolving oars for this purpose, both before and after the commencement of experiments in steam navigation. . . Prince Rupert tried a wheel-boat propelled by horses upon the Thames, and so far succeeded as to leave the King's barge, which was manned by sixteen rowers, far behind. Such a vessel was also tried at Chatham in 1682. Captain Thomas Savery, who is better known for his share in the invention of the steam-engine, exerted himself much to introduce a similar apparatus to be worked by a capstan; and, failing to obtain patronage from Government, he published an account of his scheme in 1698, in a work entitled, 'Navigation improved, or the art of rowing ships of all rates in calms with a more easy, swift, and steady motion than oars can.' Revolving paddles were tried about the same time in France by M. Duquet, and have since been repeatedly experimented upon, but without realising any important advantage, except when moved by a steam-engine."

George H. Townsend in his *Manual of Dates*, under the head of "Steam Navigation," gives a tabulated account of the various attempts at the mechanical propulsion of vessels. The dates are 1736—1860. A correspondent of *Notes and Queries* (Third Series, i. p. 207) calls attention to the attempt of Blasco de Garay at Barcelona in 1543. He succeeded in that year in propelling a paddle-boat by means of oxen. If INQUIRER can obtain access to a copy of the *History of Merchant Shipping and*

Ancient Commerce, by W. S. Lindsay, vols. 3 and 4, he will there find a precise account of every application of mechanical aid to the artificial navigation of vessels in all ages, with numerous excellent illustrations.

The name of Longhi occurs in many dictionaries of Biographical Reference. He belonged to a family of painters and engravers, and Bryan in his *Dictionary of Painters and Engravers* makes the following reference to his name:—" [Longhi, Giuseppe], an Italian painter, and one of the most distinguished engravers of the nineteenth century, was born at Monza in 1766; died 1831." The above work gives a concise account of his numerous productions and a brief account of his life, with references to other biographical works where his name may be found.

LIBER.

QUERIES.

[4,387.] WINDEMARELY. — Can any reader say where Windemarly (1689) is? Is there a place of this name anywhere near Whalley or Clitheroe; or is it the same as Winmarleigh, near Garstang?

B. N.

Farnworth.

[4,388.] A STOCKPORT CLOCKMAKER. — About what date did Richard Corless, clockmaker, Stockport, carry on business? I have an ancient clock bearing his name as maker. It has only one finger (or hand) and has no movement to work more. I shall be glad of any information which will enable me to judge of its age.

JOSEPH JONES.

[4,389.] WARREN. — Can Mr. Owen, or any other correspondent, furnish me with information of the ancestors of John Warren, who, in 1788, resided at the Golden Lion, Deansgate, Manchester. He died December 13, 1789, and was buried at St. John's, Deansgate. I shall be thankful for any information respecting this family.

S. WARREN MARLOR.

Lees, Oldham.

[4,390.] THE IRLAM FAMILY. — Feeling interested from a relationship point of view in the history of the Irlam family, I should be obliged if Mr. Noton or some other of your correspondents would supply further information. Did any branch of the family settle in Buglawton, Cheshire, as a family of that name lived during the last century at a house known by the appellation of Irlam Farm, and several members of the family are buried at Astbury?

HENRY BROMFIELD.

Congleton.

Saturday, September 11, 1886

NOTES.

THE SONG KNOWN AS SCHUBERT'S "ADIEU," OR
"LAST GREETING."

[4,391.] At a recent Saturday afternoon concert in the Crystal Palace, given under the direction of Mr. August Manns, the following was one of the items of the programme:—

Solo for Cornet—"Adieu.".....Weyrauch.
(Generally attributed to Schubert)
Mr. L. W. Hardy.

The air above-named, commonly known as Schubert's, is published with the words "Adieu! 'tis love's last greeting" (Wessel), and "Weep not for friends departed" (Cramer). An inquiry as to the ground on which the composer's name was changed on this occasion resulted in the following proof notice, prepared for the *Dictionary of Music and Musicians* (Macmillan and Co.), being courteously furnished by the Editor:—

WEYRAUCH, AUGUST HEINRICH VON. A composer whose name must be mentioned because he is the author of a song, "Adieu," or "Lebe wohl," often attributed to Schubert, and at one time very much sung. It was published by the author in 1824, under his own name, with the title of "Nach Osten," to words by Wetzell. Its attribution to Schubert is due to Paris, where it was published about 1840 as "Adieu! Paroles françaises de M. Bélanger." A transcription of it as Schubert's by Döhler (op. 45, No. 3), appeared in Germany in 1843; and lastly it was published in Schubert's name by Schlesinger as a song with German text in 1845. Weyrauch is not mentioned in any dictionary, nor even in Whistling's *Handbuch*, and the above information is taken from Nottebohm's Thematic Catalogue of Schubert, p. 254.

Whistling (1828) mentions a Sophie von Weyrauch as the composer of an overture (op. 3), and two books of dances for pf. [G.]

J. B. SHAW.

Cornbrook.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLE ROUTE TO YORKSHIRE.

(Nos. 4,350 and 4,354.)

[4,392.] On July 31 Mr. BINNS gave particulars of the best cycling route to Huddersfield, describing the road as "good, but hilly," and, after riding it, I would like to add "thoroughly enjoyable." I was on the look-out for the danger board of the C.T.C. at the top of Waterhead Hill, and found it, but should not have done so, had not Mr. Binns called attention to it, it

is so besotted and indistinct. I have taken Mr. B.'s hint and joined the C.T.C., and perhaps he in return will take mine, and use his influence to get the board a coat of paint. It is at the top of a very dangerous hill, and if discernible would be very useful to riders.

J. B.

A LAMP-LIGHT PROBLEM.

(Nos. 4,374, 4,375, and 4,385.)

[4,393.] It was with very great interest that I read Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY's instructive Note (No. 4,385) with regard to the relation of light to the law of the inverse square. But I cannot see the advantage claimed by Mr. BRIERLEY for his version of the rule. Indeed, his is very much more complicated and vague than the rule as given by Mr. Newbigging, and there is, further, one expression used by Mr. BRIERLEY which is of doubtful accuracy in this connection. He says: "Light varies in intensity inversely as the square of the distance from its origin." Is Mr. BRIERLEY not in error in stating that it is the *intensity* of a light which is projected on to the object illuminated? Should he not rather have used the term "degree of illumination" or "illuminating power," as employed by Mr. Newbigging? Indeed, in Mr. Newbigging's *Handbook*, where the subject of the testing of illuminating power is treated on, and which extends over eighteen pages, I do not find that the word "intensity" is once made use of. In point of fact the photometer, the action of which is based on the law in question, does not measure the intensity of a light, but the *quantity* of illumination projected by such light on an intercepting object.

For example, the intensity and quantity both of light and heat emitted by the sun are probably equal. This is not the case with the light and heat emitted by any terrestrial body. The intensity, for instance, of the heat and light of the electric lamp, both arc and incandescent, is greatly in excess of its quantity. On the other hand, the quantity of light and heat yielded by a coal-gas flame is relatively greater than the intensity of such flame. The electric current can fuse even the diamond, which is probably the most infusible of all substances; yet the quantity of heat given out by the same current is infinitesimal as compared with its intensity.

This is still more patent in the case of the "Swan" incandescent lamp. Here the heat of the glowing carbon film is most intense, and were not the carbon *in vacuo* it would be immediately consumed; whereas

the amount or quantity of such heat projected on to the glass envelope surrounding it is but trifling, as anyone can prove for himself by holding his hand near to a "Swan" lamp.

It is quite true that Professor Tyndall has shown "that heat, electricity, and magnetism are 'modes of motion,'" but there is another and earlier authority whose researches on this question should not have been overlooked by Mr. BRIERLEY. I allude, of course, to Justice Grove, and his epoch-making work on *The Correlation of the Physical Forces*.

J. F. COCKS.

Lyme View, Romiley.

THYINE-WOOD.

(Query No. 4,373, August 21.)

[4,394.] HEDGE-ROSE, when asking about Bryony, requested some particulars also respecting the Thyine-wood tree, an example of which was seen by the Field Naturalists when at Eastnor Castle on Whitsun Thursday. The tree is very uncommon in cultivation in this country, and so many interesting associations are bound up with it that I am glad of the opportunity of giving the details so far as space will allow. Botanically the tree is a very near relative of the common arbor-vitæ of every shrubbery and good garden. The two or three species of the latter constituted the genus *Thuja*, and this, in turn, is very nearly related to the common cypress, the immemorial tree of Oriental cemeteries. Hence it is not unusual to hear the Thyine-wood called the Algerian cypress. The epithet at once declares the native country. Upon all the wild and uncultivated hills of Barbary and the Atlas range it grows plentifully. Colonel Playfair, in his recently published Report upon the Forests of Algeria, says that it covers an area of about 135,000 acres, this, as in the case of other timber trees, notwithstanding the great fires of 1865 and 1871, and the periodical conflagrations caused by the Arabs for the sake of obtaining better pasturage for their flocks. The height attained is rather trifling, the maximum being not much over twenty feet. There is good reason to believe, however, that in ancient times the dimensions of very many of the individual trees then existing were vastly greater; just as in England some few centuries ago there were thousands of such oaks as those of which we have the remains so grand and impressive still standing in immortal Sherwood. In all the older countries, indeed, where the axe has

had its own way, the patriarchal trees must be understood to have disappeared, or nearly so, a new generation of similar ones never again to be seen; and, if all be true that is told, the gigantic Sequoias of California are fast falling before the same relentless edge. The species of tree will not be lost, but it is doubtful if the world will ever again see examples so superb of many kinds of which we can now only say, in those days there were giants.

As in the case of the arbor-vitæ and the cypress, the Thyine-wood tree presents itself as a very branchy evergreen, constituted mainly of innumerable slender twigs, clothed with minute leaves, these packed so closely together, and overlapping in such a way, as to have an image in the scales of a fish. In the tree before us the twigs are curiously pointed, the elementary portions, when dry, soon breaking away from one another, whence the scientific name originally bestowed of *Thuja articulata*. Owing to the tenuity of the branches and twigs, it is possible at any season to see quite through the tree. In early spring they are decked with yellowish flowers, minute but very plentiful, some of them staminate, the others female, the latter in due time ripening into dry brown galbuli the size of a hazel-nut, and consisting each of four truncated scales. So different is this structure from that of the genuine *Thujas* that Ventenat, the celebrated French botanist, made a distinct genus of the African tree, calling it very appropriately *Callitris quadrivalvis*. "*Callitris*" signifies "the comely" or "the graceful." An idea of the pretty complexion may be partially gathered from the excellent drawing of a spray in Desfontaine's *Flora Atlantica* (1800), vol. ii. pl. 252.

Thuja, an exceedingly ancient name, denotes wood which is adapted for use as a material for incense. The appellation of the aromatic little labiate of the lovely and well-known line—

I know a bank whereon the wild thyme blows,
is of corresponding etymological origin. So that when old Homer tells us, in his charming description of the enchanted island of Calypso (*Odyssey*, v. 60), that the odour in the cave was that of burning cedar and thyon, although some interpreters prefer to understand frankincense, the produce of some kind of tree seems to be almost certainly adverted to. Possibly the term was collective. In any case we come, in the Apocalypse (xviii. 12), upon the Greek phrase "*xylon thyinon*," rendered in the A. V.

"thyine-wood." It appears in that most solemn intimation to the foul and wicked, whatever their religious "denomination" may be, under the figure of the ruin of Babylon, that they shall certainly perish:—"The merchandize of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine-wood . . . and wine, and oil . . . and horses and chariots . . . and the fruits that thy soul have lusted after, are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and good are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. . . . In one hour so great riches is come to nought." The actual, historical Babylon, employed to give shape and clearness to this fearful picture, no doubt imported its thyine-wood from various foreign countries, and a portion of it, at all events, would appear to have been got from this identical tree, the Callitris, the conveyance from Babylon up the Mediterranean taking place at the hands of the renowned Phœnician merchants, those who had their headquarters in ancient Tyre.

The wood of the Callitris is not only adapted for burning as incense; it is exceedingly beautiful in colour, a dark and variegated hazel brown; in texture it is smooth and solid. It was immensely esteemed by the ancient Romans, who were willing to pay prices almost fabulous for tables and other articles manufactured from it. They fetched as much, it is said by the authors of that time, as their weight in gold. They called it citrus or citrine, a word of course not to be confounded with citron, the name of the fruit. Being a wood that bids defiance to the hunger of insects, and almost incapable of decay, it was recommended by Theophrastus for the building of temples, seeing that edifices dedicated to the deities should be constructed of imperishable materials. Thyine-wood was used also for the decoration of private apartments, as we may perceive in the seventh Elegy of Propertius, though we cannot be sure that he distinctly means the yield of the Callitris. The portion specially valued was cut from the immense knots which in large and full-grown trees are found at the base of the trunk. It is probable that callitris-wood formed part of the material used for Solomon's Temple. To this day the Callitris bears in Morocco the name of "alerce," an alteration of "al arz," a term which leads in turn to èrez, the Hebrew or Scripture name of the veritable cedar of Lebanon. Specimens of Thyine-wood (Callitris)

were shown in the Paris Exhibition of 1855, among the samples of "Produits Algeriennes."

LEO GRINDON.

BRYONY.

(Nos. 4,373 and 4,376.)

[4,395.] An interesting reference in verse to the plant so delightfully described by Mr. GRINDON is in a poem by Charles Mackay, called "The Briony Wreath." The poem is composed of thirteen stanzas, of which I quote the first:—

I twined around my true love's brow,
Amid her dark brown hair,
A wreath of Briony from the hedge,
With rings and berries fair;
And called her "Lady Briony,"
And darling of the air.

The poem is in a charming volume of verse named *Under Green Leaves*, which is now rather scarce. If Mr. GRINDON cannot easily meet with a copy, I shall be glad to lend him mine, as the whole book is redolent of pine-forest and hedge-row, and the sights and sounds of country life.

Mr. Gosse also mentions it in the following verse, taken from "The Paradise of a Wearied Soul:—

There walk the languorous multitudes
Who sought and found eternal rest;
They wander through the silent woods
By twilight and old sleep caressed;
And every dark-eyed traveller sips
The honey from the briony cups;
And with a long white finger strikes
The gelid dew from jasmine bowers,
Or shatters all the orange spikes
Of agrimony flowers.

The reader will notice the difference in the spelling, which is not material.

J. WILLIAMSON.

Synwood, Darwen.

* * *

Mr. GRINDON in his Note on Bryony says:—"A very interesting feature in the turning, both in the eucurbit and the passion-flower tendrils, is that they are apt to curl first one way, and then the contrary, changing the direction in the middle of the spire, and thus obtaining a more certain grip." I should like to have it explained how the grip is rendered more certain. The plant seizes its support by the end of its tendril, and the spiral coiling draws up the Bryony and allows of a little play. The contrary coil seems to be useless for this purpose.

Again, the passage quoted implies that the tendrils of other plants do not behave in this way and of these not always. Now the fact is that all tendrils which clutch a support by their extremities and then form

a spire, must form a contrary spire. When thread, string, ribbon, or anything of that sort is wound round a reel or stick, every one must have noticed how the lower end also forms contrary coils. Each coil causes a twist in the thing wound about its axis, which in its turn causes a coil in the lower part. If the end is free, it of course twists without forming a coil. This is the case in plants whose stems twine and in tendrils which have not seized anything; consequently such plants (*i.e.* the Hop and Bean) and free tendrils can and generally do coil throughout in one direction.

I fear it is useless to protest against one piece of botanical nomenclature. A screw like a cork-screw, or a carpenter's screw, or that formed by the stem of the Hop, is called by every one else a right-handed screw, but a botanist calls it a left-handed screw, and *vice versa*.

An interesting feature in the tendrils of the White Bryony and many other plants is their irritability. At the extremity is a small hook; if the tendril is lightly rubbed on the side on which this hook is (*i.e.* the concave side), it will in a few minutes coil up. This is what happens when the tendril comes into contact with a twig. Another feature is that the tendrils, like the shoots of plants whose stems twine, revolve, the ends describing circles or ovals. Observations on this point must be made with some care, each revolution taking a few hours. Those who are interested in these subjects should refer to Darwin's *Climbing Plants*.

To change the popular nomenclature of flowers is an almost hopeless task. Those who study or collect flowers are compelled to use the scientific names; for most flowers have no popular names. The English names given in floras and other books are not popular but translations of the scientific names. If the proposed change from Black-bryony to *Tamus* is made, so many others must follow that the result will be "confusion worse confounded." One flower is now known by the names Lady's-smock, Cuckoo-flower, May-flower, Small-pox. Other names will have to be found for the Dead-nettles, Whitlow-grass, Scurvy-grass, Knot-grass, Dame's-violet, Water-violet, Rock-rose, perhaps Primrose. When we go out to tea, we shall be asked to have some *Nasturtiums* with our bread and butter. If we ask for a sprig of *Geranium* for our button hole, we shall get a stalk

bearing a couple of small pinkish flowers about one-third of an inch in diameter. H. G. WILLIS.

Trimley, Ipswich.

QUERIES.

[4,396.] HOMER.—Was Homer colour-blind?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,397.] CODNOR CASTLE.—I should be glad of information respecting Codnor Castle, now lying in ruins between Derby and Nottingham. I believe Oliver Cromwell was in some way connected with it. E. T.

[4,398.] CYCLE ROUTE TO BUXTON.—I shall be glad to know of the best route to Buxton, giving details of the road, or anything worth stopping to see. I have studied the road map, but unfortunately it does not give the number and length of hills one expects to meet. J. B.

[4,399.] THE PEN-DAVIS CHAIR.—Can any of your readers inform me upon what occasion this chair was presented to Mr. Pen-Davis, and is the statement correct that it was made by the verger from oak which formed part of the tower of the Manchester Collegiate Church? J. F. J.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "SHOW" AND "EXHIBITION."—The *Queenslander* says the genius of Yankeeedom is displaying itself just now in discriminating subtle shades of difference in the meaning of ordinary words which have hitherto been accepted and used by us as synonymous. Who among us would have thought that there was any important distinction between a "Show" and an "Exhibition?" Not only is our exhibition our annual show, but, even when we transfer the words to the sphere of conduct, the man who makes a show of himself and the man who makes an exhibition of himself are related to one another as six to half-a-dozen. But it is not so in New York. There a show may be an exhibition, but an exhibition is not a show. The distinction is even legally valid, for when the "unco guid" in New York recently made the usual outcry against the keeping open on Sunday, at half-price, for the benefit of working men and their families, of a certain mammoth flower show which had been the wonder and delight of the leisured class during the week, the authorities, being appealed to, decided that it was not a "Show," which would have brought it within the penal code, but an "Exhibition," and, as such, out of the reach of penalty.

Saturday, September 18, 1866.

NOTES.

THOMAS SOROCOLD, M.A., OF MANCHESTER, AUTHOR OF "SUPPLICATIONS OF SAINTS," CIRCA 1585-1754.

[4,400.] I shall be obliged for any particulars of this old divine, or for the dates of numerous missing editions of his popular book of prayers. He was a native of Manchester, born in 1561 of respectable parentage. Some of his connections were vintners in Manchester and in Salford. Bradford the martyr mentions "T. Sorocold and his wife" in his letters to his mother written from the Tower of London 6 Oct., 1553, and 24 Feb., 1554. The curious name seems to have been derived from a place in Leigh parish, Lancashire, near Byrom Hall; and it is introduced (my nephew Harold Bailey informs me) in Harrison Ainsworth's novel of the *Tower of London*, where the surgeon attending the persons who were put to torture is called Sorocold. The chief branch of the family was descended from one Letwood; the children of Richard, son of Matthew Letwood, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Soracole of Sawford, about A.D. 1450, were called "Soracole." A prominent member of the Salford branch was Gilbert Sorocold, who signed his will 28 July, 1544, directing his body to be buried "before the Rode" in the old church. He mentions Rauffe Sorocold his brother's son, and left 5s. to the mending of Salford lane.

The first local notice of Thomas the divine was in Raines's *Stanley Papers*, ii. 142-3. He was probably educated at the grammar school of his native town, and he became a battler or student of Brazenose College, Oxford, in 1578. By that time he had made himself well known in Manchester; and on Dec. 7, 1579, the executors of the bounty of Robert Nowell, brother of the Dean of St. Paul's and the patron of towardly scholars, gave 10s. to Thomas Sorocold, "scholar of Manchester, com'endid by certen gent' of Lancashire, and of Mr. Carter." Oliver Carter was fellow and sub-warden of the foundation of Manchester College. In part iii. of the manual the author has a good "Schollers Prayer":—"Breathe into my soule the spirit of vnderstanding that in my childehoode I may learne; and as I grow further into yeeres, practise the studie of those things onely that are agreeable to Thy lawes. Have mercy vpon

me, and lighten mine vnderstanding with the beames of Thy divine wisdom that I may have iudgement to make the best choyse, wit and capacity to conceive, and memory to retaine and beare away all such good things as I shall eyther heare or reade."

"Tho. Sorrocowld, Lanc., pleb. fil.," was matriculated at his college July 18, 1580. He was B.A. February 6, 1582, and M.A., July 8, 1585. Then followed his ordination, and the exercise of his profession in Lancashire. He was invited to preach at Lathom House in that county, the seat of the magnificent Earl of Derby; and he arrived there on Saturday, 8th July, 1587, when Lord Leicester's company of actors was leaving, and on the following day "Mr. Sorrocolde preched" (*Stanley Papers*, ii. 32).

On 25th September, 1588, Thomas Sorocoulde, preacher, owed 6s. to the estate of Elizabeth Gouldsmithe, of Salford, daughter of Thomas Sorocold; Ralphe Sorocoulde, vintner, was a debtor for £11; and Gilbert Sorocoulde, a sheerman, owed £1. 19s. This Ralph is mentioned 4th September, 1571, along with Oliver Birch and Henry Hardy, as having used and kept each of them one tavern or wine cellar without lawful warrant or authority, and they were fined. By his will, dated 10th September, 1593, Ralph, styling himself "merchant," directed his body to be buried in his parish church, near to the place where he used to sit in time of divine service. There were several Gilberts in the family settled in Salford who kept inns. At the house of Gilbert Sorocold, Christopher Abingdon, of Wakefield, died 19th December, 1609. His hostelry seems to have been frequented by Yorkshire travellers, for on 8th August, 1612, Robert Lille, of Wakefield, died "at Gilberte Sorrocolde's of Salford." One of the houses kept by the family was the Eagle and Child, where John Taylor, the Water Poet, stayed two days on his visit to Manchester, described in his *Penniless Pilgrimage*, published in 1630. He found the town a most hospitable place and praised the qualities of its ales, which he quaffed at the houses of those whom he called upon, "Canne following Canne, and Pot succeeding Pot." The inn at which he put up was The Eagle and Child, and its hostess was Mrs. Saracoale:

—a good ancient woman,
Did entertaine me with respect not common.

So Mistress Saracoale, hostesse kinde,
And Manchester, with thanks I left behinde.

John Sarrocoale, vintner, was buried at the Old Church, 17 May, 1621; and Robert, called an inn-keeper, was buried 29 April, 1628.

Thomas Sorocold's well known little manual of prayers derived much of its popularity from its containing "three most excellent Prayers made by the late famous Queen Elizabeth," as well as her portrait. On Oct. 29, 1590, this queen presented Tho. Sorocold, A.M., to the rectory of St. Mildred, Poultry, London (Newc. Rep. i. 502); but the date of his successor there is not given. The three royal prayers described by the author as "'Præstantiores,' far more eminent and excellent than all the rest," were the prayer of thanksgiving for the overthrow of the Spanish navy, for the success of her navy, 1596, and another for her navy, 1597. The 1622 edition has Short Prayers for the morning and evening by I. F., 1581 (p. 97). Wood says ("Athen. Oxon.," i. 635) that in the latter end of Queen Elizabeth, and in the time of King James I., the book took with the vulgar sort, and was as much admired as *The Practice of Piety* was afterwards. These facts may supply a clue to the early dates of the book. I possess twelve copies of it, which have taken very many years to get together. One of the editions was put out in 1617-8. It was dedicated to Prince Charles, and shows us that Sorocold was acquainted with the royal family. It is dated "from the Rectory of St. Mildred's in the Poultry, London, the first of Febr., an. 1617." He tells the prince that "it is now almost a yere since I presumed to present unto your Highness this small Booke, my poor *Myte* of DEVOTION, which your royall Sister, that most vertuous and religious Princess Palatine of *Rhene*, challenged for her owne, long before the translation of her into that Climate." This Princess Elizabeth, who was born Aug. 16, 1596, married Frederick, Elector Palatine of the Rhine, Feb. 14, 1612-3, and became the mother of Prince Rupert. To this edition Sorocold added six small prayers. He says that it is now offered "again" to Prince Charles's royal hands. To one of the editions at this time was added a Thanksgiving for the delivery of the King's Majesty and the state of Parliament from the gunpowder treason, 1605. The Rev. W. E. Buckley, of Middleton Cheney, has noted in one of his five copies (1622, 1642, 1690, 1729, and 1754) that the book first appeared in 1612. Dr. Hook, vicar of Leeds, said the book was first published in 1616. Of

the tenth edition we may give a copy of the title-page, as follows:—

Supplications of Saints. A Booke of Praiers and Prayeses. In foure Parts. 1. Daniels Devotion. 2. Pauls Assembly. 3. Davids Suite. 4. Moses Song. Praiers for 1. Thrice euery day. 2. Companies. 3. Euery one alone. 4. Praises & Graces. Wherein are three most excellent Praiers made by the late famous Queene Elizabeth. The tenth Edition.

By Tho. Sorocold.

Reuel. 8. 4. The smoke of Incense which came with the Prayers of the Saints, ascended vp before God.

London, Printed by I. B. for Nicholas Bourne, and are to be sold at his Shop, at the South entry of the Royall Exchange. 1622—8vo., pp. xv. 418+iv. The portrait of Queen Elizabeth in this copy is at p. 277.

The Prayer for the King's Majesty in this copy is for James I.; and it refers to Prince Charles, Frederick the Prince Elector Palatine, the Lady Elizabeth his wife, and their hopeful issue (p. 179). After this edition the manual appears to have been issued regularly every year, but copies are not recorded. The eighteenth edition, "corrected and enlarged," is dated 1631, the twenty-first 1634, and the twenty-fourth 1638. I have copies of all of these. Charles I. is in these introduced into the Prayer for the King's Majesty, followed by "the vertuous Lady Elizabeth." In a later prayer "the Queen his wife" is mentioned. A copy of the 1634 edition, said to be corrected and enlarged, once the Duke of Sussex's, is now at the Chetham College, Manchester, the only copy of the work possessed by that old library. My copy has numerous autographs of former owners:—Mary Yeate; George Budding; Thomas Louett, 1691; Samuel Harding; Richard Wintle, 1694; Geo. Wintle was baptised 1725; Thos. Grinning, 3 April, 1731; Jonathan Cutts, 1731; John Wiles, his book, Sept. ye 14, 1773—this was the gift of Ester Minett. Written in the 1638 copy is "James Fletcher, born 17 Aug., 1707; died 12 June, 1795." The twenty-sixth edition is in the Bodleian; I also possess that edition, with the twenty-seventh, 1642. A new edition was put out in 1662 or 1663, of which I have a copy, once Dr. Bliss's, with no title-page; but that well-known bibliographer, who bought it 10 Oct., 1825, has written the date 1617 upon the cover. This edition in the Royal Prayer introduces Charles II. as King, "after so long an absence from his father's throne;" Katherine the Queen; and James Duke of York (pp. 106, 172, 247). Anthony à Wood says that the book was printed several times in 8vo. and 12mo., and

that the thirty-eighth edition (?) was printed at London in 1671 in 12mo. The British Museum has the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh editions, dated 1687, 1690. Hearne had a copy of the thirty-eighth edition, London, 1693, 12mo.; and he relates that he remembered a very pious lady who used to give away great numbers yearly to the poor. A copy given to me by the Rev. J. I. Dredge, of Buckland Brewer, Devonshire, is dated 1700, but called the 39th. I also have the thirty-ninth and fortieth editions, dated 1703 and 1711. The first belonged to "Arrimy Williams" in 1706-7, and to Ann Prichard in 1742. Eliza and Wm. Pritchard are also written in it. A copy of the second has the autograph Wm Dunbar. These editions pray for Queen Anne. The forty-first edition, 1715, is in the British Museum, which altogether, Mr. G. Bullen has kindly informed me, possesses six editions. My copy of the 1723 edition (forty-second) has "George" in the royal prayer. This copy belonged to Jane Astle, 1731; Jane Barker, 1734; and Daniel Barker, "ejus liber," 1734.

The only copy in the Free Library, Manchester, Sorocold's native town, is the forty-third, dated 1729 (392, c. 96.) Many booksellers were interested in these latter editions, as Norris (Looking-glass, London Bridge); Bates (Sun and Bible, Giltspur-street); Bettsworth (Red Lion, Paternoster Row); and Midwinter (Looking-glass, London Bridge). Mr. W. E. Axon's copy of the 1729 edition was mentioned in the Local Notes of the *Manchester Guardian*, Nos. 296, 337. The Bodleian Library, which possesses only two editions, has one of the latest, viz., that of 1754, the forty-fifth.

The title damned it in the eyes of Scotchmen, and it never seems to have been permitted to cross the border. A distinguished bibliographer in Edinburgh writes, "Nobody here knows anything of Sorocold. His *Supplications* is not in the Advocates' Library, nor the Signet, nor the Free College Library."

An abridgment of the work was published by Dean Hook, in his admirable *Devotional Library*, begun in 1846, being reprints from well-known Church of England divines for parochial distribution. An interesting advertisement relating to this series of books will be found in the first volume of *Notes and Queries*, No. 14, Feb. 2, 1850 (1st S. i. 224), where *Sorocold's Prayers for a Week* is set down, price 2d. This abridgment of Sorocold's work, taken from a

1693 edition, is well nigh as scarce as some of the earlier editions, for though I have long sought it I still lack it.

Sorocold's prayers are characterized by their fervent piety. One of them may in conclusion be quoted, viz., that for sobriety, illustrating the good old meaning of the word temperance:

O, Lord God, which has commanded us to be sober, direct my paths in the right way of Sobriety, spiritual and corporal: Suffer me not this day, nor any other, to abuse thy good creatures or turn thy grace into wantonness; let me be not overcome with surfeiting and drunkenness, but avoid all superfluity, using all temperance and moderation both in meats and drinks. Grant me a stayed mind, a grave and sober disposition, and an humble and lowly conceit of my self. Bless me that I may be wise, but to sobriety, that I may live soberly, righteously, and religiously in this present world, for Jesus Christ's sake, *Amen*.

It is a singular circumstance that the family of Sorocold left this neighbourhood apparently in a body about the middle of the XVIIIth century. Between 1573 and 1655 thirty persons of the name were married, but after the latter date no more marriages appear. The baptisms in the same period were sixty in number, and they, too, suddenly cease. There were seventy burials during the same interval. After the year 1655 the name occurs only now and then. Some of the name lived in the adjoining parts of Cheshire. In the north-east of the Chancel in Bowdon Church is the following inscription, in old capitals, on a stone: *Here lyeth interred the body of Elisabeth Parkes, wife of William Parkes, and once the wife of John Sarocold, who was buried the 24th day of August 1650.*

JOHN E. BAILEY.

Stretford, Manchester.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

WINDEMARLY.

(Query No. 4,387, September 4.)

[4,401.] There is a place called Mearley between Clitheroe and Pendle Hill, as a reference to the Ordnance Map will show. H. A. S.

WAS HOMER COLOUR BLIND?

(Query No. 4,386, September 11.)

[4,402.] Mr. MORGAN BRIERLEY, in the *City News* of last week, asks this question, a question that probably can never be satisfactorily answered; for according to Darwin's theory, sight and colour sensa-

tion were gradually developed, like many other faculties in man and animals; therefore, in distant ages of the past imperfect vision would be very common and colour blindness most likely universal. Pertinent to this interesting subject, Alfred R. Wallace, the friend of Darwin, and really the sharer with him of the discovery of Evolution, has some remarks in his fine essay on *The Colours of Animals and Plants*. He says:—

Throughout the long epochs in which the sense of sight was being gradually developed in the higher animals, their visual organs would be mainly subjected to two groups of rays—the green from vegetation, and the blue from the sky. The immense preponderance of these over all other groups of rays would naturally lead the eye to become specially adapted for their perception; and it is quite possible that at first these were the only light-vibrations which could be perceived at all. We can thus understand why green and blue form the central portion of the visible spectrum, and are the colours which are most agreeable to us in large surfaces.

In a note towards the end of his essay Wallace adds:

There is reason to believe that our capacity to distinguish colours has increased even in historical times. The subject has attracted the attention of German philologists, and I have been furnished by a friend with some notes from a work of the late Lazarus Geiger. According to this writer it appears that the *colour* of grass and foliage is never alluded to as a beauty in the Vedas or the Zendavesta, though these productions are continually extolled for other properties. Blue is described by terms denoting sometimes green, sometimes black, showing that it was hardly recognized as a distinct colour. The *colour* of the sky is never mentioned in the Bible, the Vedas, the Homeric poems, or even in the Koran. The first distinct allusion to it known to Geiger is in an Arabic work of the ninth century. "Hyacinthine locks" are black locks, and Homer calls iron "violet-coloured." Yellow was often confounded with green, but, along with red, it was one of the earliest colours to receive a distinct name. Aristotle names three colours in the rainbow—red, yellow, and green. Two centuries earlier Xenophanes had described the rainbow as purple, reddish, and yellow. The Pythagoreans admitted four primary colours—white, black, red, and yellow; the Chinese the same, with the addition of green. If these statements fairly represent the early condition of colour-sensation they will accord with the view here maintained, that green and blue were first alone perceived, and that the other colours were successively separated from them. These latter would be the first to receive names; hence we find purple, reddish, and yellow, first noticed in the rainbow as the tints to be separated from the widespread blue and green of the visible world which required no distinctive colour-appellation. If the capacity of distinguishing colours has increased in historic times, we may perhaps look upon colour-blindness as a survival of a condition once almost universal; while the fact that it is still so prevalent is in harmony with the view that our present high per-

ception and appreciation of colour is a comparatively recent acquisition, and may be correlated with a general advance in mental activity.

F. SILKSTONE.

Manchester.

SWAN'S EGGS.

[4,403.] J. G. M. asks what number of eggs swans usually lay for one sitting. The number of eggs upon which a swan begins incubation is very uncertain, but perhaps from five to seven is the most frequent number. It is recorded, however, that nine were laid in a nest at the Jephson Gardens at Leamington, and that all of them were hatched. In 1850 twelve eggs were deposited in a nest at Beddington Park in Norfolk, and the brood all reared. I am inclined to think, however, that in this case two hen birds had made use of the same nest, as all domestic and semi-domestic fowls occasionally do.

The swan is a close incubator, a good parent, and moreover is a bird with a history! It was considered of much account in the olden times, when a State dinner was not complete unless a swan was included in the bill of fare. The city of Oxford had a right to keep a "game" of swans by prescription upon an engagement to deliver four fat swans (to the state I presume) and leave six old ones at the end of the term. The city of Oxford, however, have long since given up the privilege, considering, probably, the "game" not worth the trouble it involved.

The *Penny Cyclopædia* says: "The privilege of having a swan-mark, or game of swans, is a freehold of inheritance, and may be granted over. But by 22 Edward IV., no person other than the King's sons shall have a swan-mark, or game of swans, unless he has freehold lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of five marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) on pain of forfeiture of the swans, one moiety to the King, and the other to any qualified person who makes the seizure. In the first year of Richard III. the inhabitants of Crowland, in Lincolnshire, were exempted from the operation of this Act upon their petition setting forth that their town stood 'all in marsh and fen,' and that they had great games of swans 'by which the greatest part of their relief and living had been sustained.'

"Two of the London Companies have games of swans, the Dyers and the Vintners Company, and are, with the crown the principal owners of swans on the Thames. On the first Monday in August in every year the swan-markers of the Crown and the two

Companies of the city of London go up the river for the purpose of inspecting the birds and marking the young ones. The swan-mark of the Dyers Company is a notch, or nick, on one side of the beak, the swans of the Vintners' Company being nicked on each side of the beak." Birds so marked were called swans with two nicks, which the cockneys corrupted into "swan with two necks," and straightway fabricated such a monstrosity in paint and used it as a sign for one of their very best hostelryes!

The Royal swan-mark is five marks on the beak. This annual trip up the river used to be a very festive and jolly affair, and was called "swan-upping;" but the indwellers of Cockaigne have long since determined that this compound word shall be "swan-hoppin."

Much that is interesting could be written of the bird under notice, but I have already wandered farther afield than J. G. M.'s question justifies me.

FELIX FOLIO.

BRYONY.

(No. 4,395, September 11.)

[4,404.] Charles Mackay's *Under Green Leaves*, including "The Briony Wreath," is not so scarce a publication as Mr. J. Williamson imagines; for the whole collection is comprised in the Lansdowne Poet's edition of the *Poetical Works of Charles Mackay*, published by Messrs. F. Warne and Co., London.

H. G. CREWS.

CYCLING ROUTES TO BUXTON.

(Query No. 4,398, September 11.)

[4,405.] The best route to Buxton is by Stockport, 6½; Disley, 13; Whaley Bridge, 16½; and Buxton 22½ miles. The road is paved to Stockport, though a better way there is by Cheadle, about three miles further. The road continues execrably paved on to Norbury, where begins a very trying hill, about two miles long, much of which is badly paved. From the top of the hill the riding is easy to Whaley Bridge. Slightly beyond this place the road begins to rise and does so continuously for about four miles, but is so beautifully graded as to be rideable the whole way by a fair cyclist. Then follows a steep descent into Buxton, which requires to be taken carefully. The four-mile hill can be avoided by going round from Whaley Bridge by Chapel-en-le-Frith, and Dove Holes, about three miles further. The hill beyond Chapel-en-le-Frith is much shorter

and not nearly so formidable as the hill beyond Whaley Bridge. This road follows the L. and N. W. railway; proof that it is the easiest.

Another very interesting way to Buxton is by Macclesfield, about 30 miles. The best way to Macclesfield is by Cheadle, Dean Row, and Adlington; or by Alderley; or even by Monk's Heath is only about two miles further. This route has the advantage of avoiding the bad roads south of Stockport. The hill above Macclesfield is very steep and long, but from the top there is a splendid run down past the "Cat and Fiddle" inn to Buxton.

W. BINNS.

235, Chapel-street, Salford.

QUERIES.

[4,406.] LATE BREEDING.—The writer has a nest with four young swallows not yet fledged. Is not this an exceptional case of late breeding?

H. J.

[4,407.] GRAMMAR.—Can any of your readers say when the first grammar was printed in England? An answer through your Notes and Queries to this would oblige,

Z.

[4,408.] "THE FOUNDLING OF THE FENS."—Many years ago this touching and beautiful story came out in the *Sunday at Home*. Can any one give me the exact date; and whether or not it can be met with published separately?

DELTA.

[4,409.] TIM BOBBIN.—Some lines of Tim Bobbin's begin:—

Tim now presents you with his dismal case:
His pockets empty, rueful is his face.

Can any of your readers say where they are to be found?

R. K.

[4,410.] JUBILEE STATISTICS.—Can any of your readers who are familiar with statistics give an approximate idea of the percentage of people who will probably be living in England on June 21st, 1887, the termination of the Queen's Jubilee, who were living in and had been born in England on or prior to June 21st, 1837, the beginning of the Queen's reign; and also the estimated population of England at that time.

Z. X.

[4,411.] THOMAS IRLAM.—I have some information in my possession concerning Thomas Irlam, who came to Congleton in 1691. I am anxious to find out, if possible, who this Thomas Irlam was—whether he was in any way connected with the Irlams of Irlam Hall. Can any of your correspondents give

me any information? I am also anxious to find out something concerning Silas Whitney, who resided in Liverpool in 1811; and Silas Sidebottom, who was minister at the Old Chapel, Hale, up to, I think, 1740.

G. P.

[4,412.] GEORGE HERBERT.—At the head of Mr. Hall Caine's account of his visit to Carlyle's birth-place, in last week's *City News*, are the lines:—

Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet in earth and blossom in the dust.

GEORGE HERBERT.

Is it not more correct to say:—

Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in their dust?

THREE B's.

[4,413.] AUTHORSHIP WANTED.—Can any of your readers inform me where the appended lines are to be found? They were used—aptly enough, no doubt—in a *Daily Telegraph* leader on Tuesday; but in accordance with the irritating fashion of a class of writers who never mention an author's name:—

If e'er you've seen an artist sketching
The purlieus of an ancient city,
I need not tell you how much stretching
There is of things to make them pretty;
How trees are brought perforce together
Where never trees were known to grow;
And fountains forced to glisten, whether
There's water for said founts or no.

A. C. M.

“CURFEW SHALL NOT RING TO-NIGHT.”—A lady living in San Antonio, Texas, Mrs. Rose Hartwick Thorpe, claims the authorship of this well-known poem. In the course of an interview she said: “The poem was written in 1867, but it was first published in the *Detroit Commercial Advertiser* during the fall of 1870. It was copied very widely immediately; but many of the papers who thus republished it failed to give the name of the author. As to many thinking it so much older than it is, a poem that springs at once into popularity as ‘Curfew’ did is read so often that it soon becomes old. I was nothing but a sixteen-year-old schoolgirl when I wrote it, and had no idea of its literary value. Thinking it rather too long to be acceptable to the *Advertiser*, the paper I had commenced writing for, I kept it three years, sending shorter poems for publication from time to time. Finally, after having revised and rewritten it several times, I sent it, and the editor, finding it of unusual merit, was glad to publish it. He asked my permission to change the title from ‘Bessie and the Curfew’ to ‘Curfew shall not Ring To-night,’ and thus it made its *début*. The only pay I got was the editor's thanks and the gratification that is always so dear to a young writer on finding the world appreciative of the work done.”

Saturday, September 25, 1886

NOTES.

THE NAMES OF ENGLISH WILD-FLOWERS: BRYONY TENDRILS.

[4,414.] Mr. H. G. WILLIS, in his comments upon my few paragraphs upon Bryony and the Tamus, immensely overshoots his mark. “To change the popular nomenclature of flowers,” he tells us, “is an almost hopeless task.” To whom can he possibly refer as almost hopeless that such a change can be accomplished? Happily it will be an impossible task, no matter who may make the effort. As long as we have Perdita with us, and Ophelia, “Lady-smock,” and “Cuckoo-flower,” and all names of their legitimate company, will live, and yearly bring new delight. No one that I ever heard of has ever dreamed of the abolition of names now as much a part of the English language as “nightingale” and “red-breast.” And to forbode a time when going “out to tea, we shall be asked to have some nasturtiums with our bread and butter,” instead of water-cresses,—I sincerely beg pardon—can only be a spasmodic effort at a joke.

No one can more rejoice than I do myself in the assured immortality of all wild-flower names which, while definite in their application, never lead to misapprehension. “Other names”—again sincerely begging pardon—will *not* have to be found for the scurvy-grass, the knot-grass, the May-flower, and others, since in the use of these names, apart from all other considerations, there is nothing in the least degree misleading. My remarks applied solely and exclusively to the Tamus, the so-called “Black Bryony.” This, I fancy, all other readers would perceive. In the latter name, “Black Bryony,” we have one distinctly inappropriate and misleading. Nothing would be lost by the disuse of it, and a great deal would be gained; and before long, in this respect, it may now indeed be hoped. Tamus will become as much a part of the vernacular as anemone and campanula, convolvulus and crocus, all of which correspond with Tamus in being the Latin or scientific names of the plants they are respectively applied to. A similar hope may be entertained with regard to three or four other “English names,” which, to my own knowledge, are a frequent source of perplexity, viz., Marsh rosemary, flowering rush, and enchanters’ nightshade. Happy the day when

the plants these are applied to shall be currently spoken of, in our daily talk, as the *Andromeda* (beautiful name), the *Butomus*, and the *Circæa*. The simple common-sense rule would seem to be that two plants, totally distinct, should not be called by the same name, especially when there is only one (English) species of each kind—*Bryony* to wit, and the *Tamus*. Does not common-sense recommend, when an error has been committed—an error excusable, no doubt, considering the time when the mistake was made, but an error none the less,—that it shall be counteracted in the best way at command? We have the opportunity before us in regard to ‘*Black Bryony*,’ and ‘*Flowering rush*.’ Correcting that error would in no degree affect the maintenance—guaranteed, fortunately, by unassailable bulwarks, of the sweet old names which are their own sufficient vindication. Mr. Willis should not confound the desirable and the practicable with the unnecessary and the impossible.

While writing, I may refer to his other remarks upon the double coil of the *Bryony* tendrils. Happening to be in company with a distinguished scientific and practical mechanic—a well known Manchester engineer—a few days ago, I laid the whole matter before him. He perfectly approved of my words, and said I had better refer Mr. Willis to the first principles involved in the idea of the spiral. I do not pretend to the knowledge myself; it belongs to a department of science I have not yet addressed myself to. One thing seems to me, however, very certain, namely, that every effect and every phenomenon in nature must needs be the outcome of a law instituted by the Divine Love and Wisdom in order to lead to the specific result under observation. There are no “accidents” in nature—no word is applied more thoughtlessly. Whatever we see in nature is there for a purpose, and is designed for some solidly useful end. The importance of an end provided for by Nature is not to be measured by the weakness of our understandings. Things are true in themselves, not because men proved them to be so, or think they can. Whether we understand the matter or not, the *Bryony* tendrils do not curl in the way mentioned without a very good creative reason for their doing so. Mr. Willis says he fails to see it. We are both of us, it is plain, only beginners.

LEO GRINDON.

Manchester.

HOPE-CARR HALL, NEAR LEIGH.

[4,415.] Hope-Carr Hall, Bedford, in the Parish of Leigh, Co. Lancashire, stands within about a mile of the Parish Church of Leigh. The present house is a plain, square, brick structure, possessing no points of interest only a plain farmhouse of about a hundred years old or thereabouts. Close by it is a moat, which evidently encloses the site of the ancient mansion long since utterly demolished, and now covered with rank grass and some fruit trees.

A close inspection of the present apparently uninteresting structure will, however, reveal that the bricks of which the walls are composed are of two different kinds; the one, the old slob bricks, very unshapeable, very thin, and very hard; the other (and by far the larger quantity) are the moulded bricks of the latter part of the last century. From this we conclude at once that the thinner slob bricks had previously formed part of a former brick building—a brick building of the date, say, of three hundred years back. Upon looking round the premises we find an old barn or shed of only small dimensions that is coeval with this earlier house, for the bricks correspond in kind, and, moreover, they are set in clay instead of mortar, while those of the present house are not so set, being set in ordinary lime-and-sand mortar. Some repairs being going on here I look around and find lots of the débris of this earlier building, in the shape of bricks with the clay-mortar still adhering to them, and also some moulded stone coping which was evidently the gable coping of this earlier house. Neither from the present house, nor anywhere about the various out-buildings is there any place from which this stone could come. For many years past it has been on the low walls of a common coal place; but I need not say that this was not the place for which gothic moulded coping could have been formerly used. It is evidently the remains of this former house. Whether this house stood within the moat I cannot say, but I think it likely it did.

But we have evidences of a still more ancient house at Hope-Carr than the brick structure of, say, the sixteenth century.

I have said that we find an old out-building which is doubtless of the same age as the former house. Let us examine this old structure. The walls, excepting where evident repairs have been

made, are of slob-bricks set in clay, and the roof is of heavy oaken beams, principals, and spars of the same age as the walls. These roof-timbers, when put here, were old timbers, with slots and mortices that had been made in them when used previously in another and earlier wooden-framed building, framed of oak, and filled in with raddle-and-dobe. Here we have certain evidence of a second earlier building than the present one, doubtless of the ancient moated hall of Hope-Carr in Bedford. I may say that to a practised eye there are other slight indications of this earlier building lying about, such as stones evidently re-wrought into other and newer forms, and various timbers in other parts of the buildings, with old mortices, tenons, and peg-holes, which a carpenter and a builder would at once recognize as belonging to this, the most ancient house. The moulded stones of the gables before referred to could never have been put upon an old timbered house, but have evidently belonged to the last house before the present one, which was an ancient brick-building, less ancient than the older framed building which it superseded.

In this part of Lancashire, and in Cheshire, the most ancient buildings we have are not of bricks—excepting where they have been introduced in later times for repairs, as in the Halls at Bramhall and Handforth—but are framework and raddlings-and-dobe placed upon a stone foundation. Stone seems to have been, in the age when these houses were built, the chief fireproof material. Bricks came into common use later; and this is no wonder: for bricks wanted burning, coalpits were almost unknown, and roads were bad to admit of coals being carted to where they were wanted for burning bricks. Therefore we find, in these very old houses, stone and not bricks, and, therefore, again, where we find that a house was originally, wholly, or for the most part, composed of bricks, we conclude that it is not so ancient as the framed house set upon stone. It is true the proportion of stone in these old houses varies much. In some the framework is placed on a plinth of stone a foot or so above the surface; in others the walls are stone up to the eaves, as in Stone House, Chorley, Cheshire, or as at Sattersley, in the parish of Mobberley, where nothing but the roof and gables was wooden, and which perhaps might more fairly be called stone buildings than wooden ones. My point is that bricks, excepting where they have

been inserted for repairs, are evidence of comparatively modern structure; stone and wooden framing being evidence of the greatest antiquity.

Hope-Carr Hall, to the common observer, presents no marks of considerable antiquity; but on examination there are the clearest evidences of three consecutive houses. First, the old timbered and raddle-and-dobe house that stood within the moat; second, a brick house of a substantial kind, as shown by the moulded copings of the gables, which brick house was built of clay for mortar for the most part; and, thirdly, the present unsightly, gaunt, square house, utterly unworthy of the historic associations of the place, and looking something like a suckling parish workhouse—a deplorable evidence of the utter loss of all taste in building in the last century.

The ancient families that have resided at this place have a history closely connected with the history of Leigh as a parish, and with the history of the County Palatine of Lancaster, and especially so in Reformation times; but this history I must leave to others. What I have written above is just what was suggested by half-an-hour's examination of the old place (now undergoing repairs), in the company of a friend who is a very "terrier" for hunting marks of olden times about an old farm-house or an old moated grange. My friend found two ancient millstones, which doubtless were formerly used in the "milne appurtenant" to this old Hall.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

Leigh, Lancashire.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

LATE BREEDING OF SWALLOWS.

(Query No. 4,406, September 18.)

[4,416.] The writer had a nest of four young swallows which started on their flight on Monday last, the twentieth instant. This was at 413, Holly Bank, Liverpool Road, Patricroft.

T. G.

Tib Lane, Manchester.

TIM BOBBIN.

(Query No. 4,409, September 18.)

[4,417.] The lines wanted by "R.K." are to be found originally in several issues of *Harrop's Manchester Mercury* during the autumn of 1763. They were attached to an advertisement of "Tim Bobbin's Toy Shop Opened; or his Whimsical Amusements . . . being the Adventures and Misfortunes of a Lancashire Clown."

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield-street.

GEORGE HERBERT AND JAMES SHIRLEY.

(Query No. 4,412, September 18.)

[4,418.] The lines quoted as from George Herbert are correctly as follows:—

Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in the dust.

The lines are, however, not Herbert's but James Shirley's, and are to be found in "Death's Final Conquest." But in the Tate and Brady version of the Psalms we read (Psalm 112, verse 6):—

The sweet remembrance of the just
Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust.

LONDINUM.

BRYONY AND THE POETS.

(Nos. 4,373, 4,376, 4,395, and 4,404.)

[4,419.] A little research would probably show that Bryony has been alluded to by poets more considerable than Mr. Charles Mackay. A correspondent (who sends neither name nor address) gives two or three references which enable an addition to be made to the quotations previously cited. Thus Shelley, in the *Revolt of Islam*, canto ii., stanza 2:—

Methought, upon the threshold of a cave
I sat with Cythna; drooping briony, pearled
With dew from the wild streamlet's shattered wave,
Hung, where we sate, to taste the joys which Nature gave.

Tennyson makes mention of Briony twice, and of Briony-vine once. The latter occurs in *Amphion*, in which the Laureate tells how old Amphion had a tuneful tongue of magical properties, and left a small plantation wherever he sat down and sung:—

Wherever in a lonely grove
He set up his forlorn pipes,
The gouty oak began to move,
And flounder into hornpipes;
The mountain stirr'd its bushy crown,
And, as tradition teaches,
Young ashes pirouetted down
Coquetting with young beeches;
And briony-vine and ivy-wreath
Ran forward to his rhyming,
And from the valley underneath
Came little copses climbing.

In the idyl of *The Brook* we have:—

On a sudden a low breath
Of tender air made tremble in the hedge
The fragile bindweed-bells and briony rings;
And he looked up. There stood a maiden near,
Waiting to pass.

The third mention is in *The Talking Oak*. The oak is narrating how Olivia, "in a fit of frolic mirth," strove to span his waist:—

A as, I was so broad of girth
I could not be embraced.
Yet seem'd the pressure thrice as sweet
As woodbine's fragile hold,
Or when I feel about my feet
The berried briony fold.

EDITOR.

THE FIRST GRAMMAR IN ENGLAND.

(Query No. 4,407, September 18.)

[4,420.] A Grammar was printed in England as early as 1497. It was published by John Holt, of Magdalen College, and usher of Magdalen School in Oxford. It was entitled *Lac priororum*, and dedicated to Norton, Archbishop of Canterbury.

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

* * * * *

I assume "Z" by his question wants to know when the first English grammar was printed. Horne Tooke gives rare Ben Jonson the honour of having written "the first as well as the best English Grammar," which, W. Gifford tells us, in a short notice prefixed to the Grammar in his edition of Jonson's works, "was first printed in 1640, three years after the author's death." Gifford furnishes also in the same notice, the sad information that "the grammar which Jonson had prepared for the press was destroyed in the conflagration of his study. What we have here, therefore, are rather the materials for a grammar than a perfect work." Hallam in his *Literature of Europe* (vol. iii. p. 155), after alluding to these remarks of Gifford's, says, apparently on the authority of Horne Tooke, "We have, as I apprehend, no earlier grammar upon so celebrated a plan; every rule is illustrated by examples almost to redundancy; but he is too copious upon what is common to other languages, and perhaps not full enough as to our peculiar idiom."

It is hardly to be supposed that the careful and industrious Horne Tooke overlooked *The English Grammar; or the Institution of Letters, Syllables, and Words in the English Tongue*, by Charles Butler, Master of Arts, which was printed at Oxford in 1633, seven years before Ben Jonson's grammar appeared, but Tooke probably ignored Butler's work because it, like several other treatises prior to Jonson's, dealt chiefly with orthographical matters.

Having mentioned these two English grammars I feel inclined to close, but the interest of the subject seems to increase, and I feel this answer will be incomplete if I fail to draw attention to Palsgrave's French Grammar, and I cannot better do this than by giving the following extracts from G. P. Marsh's valuable work on *The English Language* (pages 509 and 510) where he says:—

Hitherto (1500), neither English nor even French, is known to have possessed dictionaries, grammars, or written rules, or philological helps of any sort. So far as yet appears, the first grammatical treatise in the English language—the earliest evidence that any Englishman had ever thought of subjecting any modern tongue to the discipline of philological principle and precept—is Palsgrave's remarkable French grammar, composed for the use of the Princess Mary, and printed in 1530. This presents a very full and complete view of French accidence, syntax, and idiomatic structure, with a copious vocabulary. As it is written in English and constantly illustrates French grammar by comparison with English, it is of high value as a source of information upon the authorized forms of our own language at that period; and, though intended solely for instruction in a foreign tongue, the study of it could not have failed to throw much light on the general principles of English syntax, and thus to contribute, in an important degree, to the improvement of English philology.

The most remarkable peculiarity of Palsgrave's English is, that where an adjective belonging to the technical nomenclature of grammar follows its noun, he commonly makes its plural in *s*; thus: *verbes actyves parsonalles*, *verbes deponentes or comes*, *pronounes interrogatives*. We have still current in English a few examples of adjectives inflected for the plural, but they are cases where the noun has been so long dropped from the phrase that it has been forgotten. Thus, in "know all men by these presents," "presents" is an adjective, agreeing with "letters" understood—*per has litteras presentes*. "Premises," in deeds of conveyance, is also an adjective, its noun being understood.

Palsgrave was, so far as I know, the first writer who used a "figured" pronunciation, which he employs both to convey the sounds of the letters and to show how the liaisons are made. Thus he writes:—

Regnans par droit, heureux et glorieux,
Renávpardroatevrévzegloriévz.

F. SILKSTONE.

Manchester.

QUERIES.

[4,421.] JOSIAH TWYFORD, CLOCKMAKER.—A relative of mine has in his possession a fine old clock which formerly belonged to a descendant of Bishop Ridley the martyr, and is by Josiah Twyford, of Manchester. Can any of your readers give me some information of Josiah, and when he flourished as a clockmaker? The moon gets up on the dial and the

day of the month is told, but the geography is bad. There is a map of the world, showing the Isthmus of Panama as about 3,000 miles in width, and South America—Cape Horn—as 5,000. Then, again, China, all the isles of the Orient Sea, and New Holland are one huge continent; no sea road to China. I am afraid there was no Geographical Society in existence in those days, or possibly Josiah had not had the advantage of the Board School (higher grade).

J. G. M.

1[PROBABLE EXTINCTION OF THE BUFFALO.—A report just furnished to the National Museum of the United States illustrates in a startling manner the rapidity with which the most characteristic animal of North America is disappearing. Only a few years ago the buffalo covered the Western plains in millions. Travellers, even after the Pacific Railroad was built, were amazed at the vast herds which divided to permit the iron horse to pass, while the myriads of skulls and skeletons which whitened the prairie testified to the unintermittent slaughter which had been going on in former years. Earlier explorers saw an even more wonderful sight. Trains of waggons were stopped to allow droves of shaggy bisons to migrate, and at the fords of certain rivers it was no uncommon spectacle to witness hundreds of these great wild oxen trampled under foot by the tumultuous herds which pressed on behind. It is, therefore, amazing to find that the National Museum, in dread of soon being unable to obtain specimens, either for study or exchange, has been compelled to organize what is fittingly termed a final buffalo hunt. The taxidermists to whom this task has been assigned have found their duty by no means a sinecure. Not long ago a "robe" was thought dear at four dollars. A buffalo head is now valued in Dakota at ten times that figure, and the "holders" are by no means anxious to part with the few which they possess at even this price. In Montana the scarcity is so great that the Museum agents report that about six weeks before their arrival at Miles City "some Crow Indians are said to have killed four buffaloes on the Mussel Shell River." But they add: "It is firmly believed by good authorities that there are not now more than from fifty to one hundred buffaloes in the whole of Montana, outside of the National Park, where there are probably from two hundred to three hundred heads." Even in Canada the authorities have not been able to stretch forth their hand in time. For, by the latest news, the buffalo is rapidly disappearing in Manitoba and the North West.

Saturday, October 2, 1886

NOTES.

CLOWE GILOFRE.

[4,422.] Reading in the Chartulary of Whalley (Chetham Society's volume xx., p. 968), I came across, in a charter of Roger de Bilyngton, the words "Reddendum inde annuatim unum *clowe de Gelofre* ad nativitatem Domini" (rendering therefore one "clowe de Gelofre" at Christmas), with the editor's note: "Thus Chaucer, in the Rime of Sire Thopas,

Ther springen herbes grete and smale,
The licoria, and the setewale,
And many a clowe gilofre."

From this I am inclined to think the clowe-gilofre was a clove-gillyflower, after the fashion of the old rent of a red rose at Christmas. But reading since in the *Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundevile, Kt.*, J. O. Halliwell's edition of 1839, p. 50, I came on the following: "And sume destyllen *Cloves of Gylofre*, and of spykenard of Spayne, and of othere spices, that ben well smellynge, and the lykour that gothe out thereof, thei clepe it Bawme; and thei wenen that thei han Bawme; and thei have non." It would, therefore, appear that the "unum clowe de gilofre" was one clove (of spice), a sort of "pepper-corn rent."

H. A. S.

A MANCHESTER SHORTHAND AUTHOR.

[4,423.] The name of Mr. John Showler Verity was not very well known on this side of the water, but both England and America may claim him as a shorthand author. Lancashire gave him birth, but Massachusetts was his home, and there his bones have found a resting place. He was born at Manchester either 31 July, 1822, or 31 January, 1823—for both dates are given—and was the third son of William Verity, who is described as "a Methodist clergyman," but who does not appear in the Conference List or in the Directory, and who was at all events a very poor man, so that when his boy, who lost his mother at the age of three years, was seven years old he had to begin work in a paint factory. He had no school education, but was taught by his father in the evenings and on holidays. A great desire for knowledge led him to study, and at eighteen he was helping to teach in an evening class and was lecturing on temperance. He married Miss Nancy Lee, by whom he had three children, A son and daughter survive. Mr. Verity did not

join any church. After lecturing in a temperance hall of his own erection, he paid a visit to America in 1853, but was recalled home by the death of his wife. In the following year he again went to America and settled in Manchester, New Hampshire, as an engraver in the Kent Works.

His religious views had now changed, and he became an influential member of the free-thought party. Here he married Miss Lucy Jane Preston, who survives him. In 1867 he removed to Cambridgeport, Massachusetts, and the proximity to Boston brought him in contact with the Liberal thinkers of that intellectual capital of the United States. His reading was wide, and included the great modern writers who have dealt with the problems of belief and social organization. His favourite book was John Stuart Mill's essay on *Liberty*, one effect of which was to make him an opponent of prohibition whilst a friend of temperance. He removed to Lynn in 1881, and died there 10th February, 1885. Funeral and memorial services were held in the Paine Hall on the two succeeding Sundays. An "In Memoriam" volume was printed for private circulation, which contains many evidences of the esteem in which he was held. His photograph shows a man of ample brow, and firm mouth, but with an amiable expression and pale cast of thought.

Mr. Verity early learned Pitman's Phonography "and used it to some extent," but in 1875 he copyrighted a method of his own, and in 1880 issued a four-paged tract entitled, *A New System of Phonography*, by J. S. Verity, Cambridgeport, Mass. The plan is further explained in a little volume whose title-page reads:—"A new System of Phonography by J. S. Verity. Virtue is its own reward, and vice its own punishment. Boston: Press of Rockwell and Churchill, 39, Arch-street, 1885," 8vo., pp. 26. This book was privately printed and the issue was limited to 100 copies. It was edited by Mr. J. E. Rockwell. The plates were prepared before the author's death. In the preface he claims as the distinguishing merits of his system the following advantages:—

First.—Those letters which occur most frequently have the best forms for writing.

Second.—All double letters, such as Pr, Pl, etc., when written in the middle of words, are written with the aid of a hook at the end of the next preceding letter; or, if the hooks at the beginning of words are retained and used in the middle of words, T or D is added to the double letter.

Third.—Every syllable that is sounded can be written without taking off the pen.

Fourth, and lastly.—All the letters of my alphabet move on a straight line in writing, from the left to the right hand; and the letters are so formed as to easily join or connect with each other, as they do in long hand.

Mr. Verity in the preface to his system expresses "a proper feeling of reverence and respect for the authority of great teachers like Mr. Isaac Pitman, the originator and founder of Phonography," and is modestly diffident as to his own system. After a careful examination it does not appear to me to present any novel features of utility. The book may still, however, be prized as a short-hand rarity and as a memorial of an interesting man.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"THE FOUNDLING OF THE FENS."

(Query No. 4,406, [Sept. 18.]

[4,424.] This beautiful and interesting story was first published by the Religious Tract Society in *Sunday at Home* in the year 1863. With this story I was so greatly interested that I believe I have read it over every year since it was published, and about ten or twelve years ago I saw it advertised as a separate work on the cover of *Sunday at Home*. But last winter I wanted to purchase one to send as a present, and for that purpose called at their central dépôt in Corporation-street. The young man in charge, however, knew nothing of it, and would not take the trouble to examine his list or to write to the head office. I then applied to a bookseller, who I knew had a catalogue of the Society's publications, but he could not find it on the list, and I fear it is now out of print, as a work of such merit would soon be bought up.

R. W.

CODNOR CASTLE.

(Query No. 4,397, September 11.)

[4,425.] At the time of the Domesday Survey the manor of Codnor or Cotenoure was held by Warren under William Peverel. In 1211 it became the property of Henry de Grey, of Turve, in Essex, by marriage with Isolda, niece and co-heir of Robert de Bardolf, who held large estates in Derbyshire and the adjoining county of Notts. Their eldest son Richard, one of the loyal barons in the reign of Henry III., seated himself at Codnor Castle. Henry, the last Lord Grey de Codnor, died in 1496, when it reverted to Sir John Zouch, a younger son of William

Lord Zouch of Harringworth, who married Elizabeth Grey, daughter of Richard, Lord Grey, K.G., and aunt of the last Lord Grey. In 1634, his grandson, Sir John Zouch, and John, his son and heir apparent, sold the manor and castle to Dr. Neile, Archbishop of York and his son Sir Paul, and their descendant, Richard Neile, Esq., sold them again in 1692 to Sir Strensham Masters, who resided here and was high sheriff in 1712. I believe the estate still remains in this family.

Considerable remains of this castle still stand upon an eminence commanding an extensive view of the adjoining county of Nottingham. It is not possible to discover the size and extent of this ancient fortress; but from the ruined walls which are yet standing, and the foundation of others which may be traced, it appears to have been a very large building. On the east side was a broad ditch or moat; on the south was a large square court, from which were two entrances or gates into the castle. In the wall on the west side of the court were two large recesses, probably used as watch-houses. There is a view of the remains, taken in 1727, in the first volume of Buck's *Antiquities*.

FRED LEABY.

Fairfield-street.

* * *

Codnor Castle, situated in the hundred of Morleston, Co. Derby, is distant five miles from Alfreton. The ruins are very considerable, and are some of the best known in Derbyshire. The castle itself, which stands on an eminence overlooking the Erewash, was formerly moated, and had on its eastern side a fine avenue of trees, whilst on the west was a spacious courtyard, strongly fortified, some of the massive round towers of which still remain. The principal portion of the ruins consists of lofty outer and inner walls of the main building, containing several fine windows and doorways, a wide chimney, and the remains of a turret. "There is also an old dove-cote, a circular stone building, of considerable height and conical shape, surmounted by a tiled roof, from which rises a square wood turret. The walls are of immense thickness and solidity, and the interior, which affords accommodation for hundreds of pigeons, is honeycombed throughout with small nest-chambers."

Built in the thirteenth century, on the site of a still more ancient building, it belonged (1211) to the Greys, commonly called Lords Grey of Codnor. Henry Grey was the owner in 1211. His son Richard

was one of the loyal barons in the time of Henry III., whilst John Lord Grey of Codnor, in the reign of Edward III., distinguished himself in the Scottish wars. It was Lord Grey of Codnor who, in 1415-6, was sent by Henry V. to bring into England young Henry, the son of Hotspur. The last of the race who resided at Codnor was Henry Grey, who obtained a licence to practise the transmutation of metals. He died in the reign of the eighth Henry, and he left part of his lands to his two natural sons, Richard and Henry. The remainder went to his aunt Elizabeth Grey, who married Sir John Zouch, younger son of William Lord Zouch of Harringworth, and the lands remained in the hands of the Zouches until 1622, when they were sold. The last inhabitant of Codnor was Sir Strensham Masters, who resided there in 1712. From these Greys of Codnor were descended the Greys of Ruthen, Groby, Wilton, Rotherfield, Stamford, Suffolk, and Kent. Hence Lady Jane Grey was one of the stock. I can give "E. J." no information regarding Cromwell and Codnor.

Rusholme.

E. PARTINGTON.

THE FIRST ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

(Nos. 4,407 and 4,420.)

[4,426.] Whilst upon this topic we may notice a phonetic English Grammar of three centuries ago, namely, William Bulloker's *Brief Grammar for English*, published in 1586. For an interesting account of this and other early phonetic works see *Book-lore* for September.

H. B. REDFERN.

THE SAROCOLD FAMILY.

(No. 4,400, September 18.)

[4,427.] In addition to the interment at Bowdon, recorded by Mr. J. E. BAILEY, John Sarocold himself is buried there. His grave-stone is the thirteenth, counting from the railings dividing the church-yard, in the row of graves lying nearest the walk at the east end of the church. The inscription, in old capitals, reads as follows:—HERE LYETH INTERRED THE BODY OF IOHN SAROCOLD OF BOWDON WHO DYED THE 3^D DAY OF APRILL 1649. From this it would appear that his widow died very soon after her second marriage. Her second husband was William Parker, not Parkes. Her grave-stone may have been formerly "in the north-east of the chancel of Bowdon Church," but it now lies in the church-yard close to the north wall of the Carrington Chapel.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

THE TWYFORDS, WATCHMAKERS.

(Query No. 4,421, September 25.)

[4,428.] I find in the Cathedral Marriage Register: "1758, Nov. 6, John Twyford, of Didsbury, watchmaker, and Mary Jepson, of Heaton Norris." In the Manchester Directory for 1788 occurs: "John Twiford, watchmaker, Bank Top." He was buried at Didsbury in the following year as appears on his grave-stone: "John Twyford, of Manchester, watchmaker, died — 15, 1789, aged fifty-four years." The stone is not now to be seen as it was inclosed in the new chancel some years ago.

The Directory for 1794 gives: "Josiah Twyford, clock and watchmaker, 35, Deansgate. William Twyford, clock and watchmaker, 88, Bank Top." Josiah, who I suspect is the son of the above John, is probably buried at St. Mark's, Cheetham. The grave-stone gives the obituaries of four sons of Josiah and Mary Twyford, of Manchester. The last on the stone is his son Josiah, who died July, 1838, aged forty-seven years. The space for Josiah and his wife's obituaries is blank.

J. OWEN.

SWAN UPPING.

(Note No. 4,403, September 18.)

[4,429.] Referring to the recent Note on upping of Swans, I have just received a copy of the *Banbury Guardian*, a paragraph in which you may think worth reproducing. It is as follows:—

SWAN UPPING.—The ancient civic custom of marking the Corporation Swans was observed on Friday afternoon, September 22, at Stratford-on-Avon. Among those present were the Mayor (Sir A. Hodgson, K.C.M.G.) and Miss Hodgson, members of the Town Council, the Borough Chamberlain, and other corporate officials. There was also a large attendance of the general public. The Swans, after a diligent search, were found in the neighbourhood of Charlecote, three miles distant, and having been driven within a mile of the town, they were captured by means of ropes and crooks, and subjected to the marking process. This consisted of puncturing a small hole in the web of the foot in the shape of a heart, the usual accompaniment of cutting the birds' pinions to prevent their flying any distance being on this occasion dispensed with. Owing to the floods chilling a large number of eggs in the spring, there were fewer cygnets to mark, and the proceedings were concluded before dusk. At Tiddington the boat was moored alongside a meadow, and an *al fresco* repast was provided at the expense of the Corporation.

In my boyhood I frequently went to Stratford-on-Avon to see this custom observed. It was, and is, very interesting, for the Swans are Shakspeare's Swans, and this year the interest is not any the less because of the capture taking place at Charlecote. E. H.

QUERIES.

[4,430.] THE EDITORIAL "WE."—When was the editorial "we" first adopted? J.

[4,431.] YORKSHIRE WILLS.—Were there any other centres besides York in which Yorkshire wills of last century were proved? TESTAMENTUM.

[4,432.] CHEETHAM AND CHEETHAM HILL.—Is there any boundary of Cheetham Hill from the town, ship of Cheetham? Did such a boundary ever exist—and where? C. DAWSON.

[4,433.] CROMWELL'S BOOTS.—Where, or from whom (in Birmingham) did Thomas Jones, F.S.A., late librarian of Chetham College, receive Oliver Cromwell's boots, which were exhibited in the college museum from 1845 to about 1866? Any historic details will be thankfully received by

AN OLD COLLEGIATE.

[4,434.] ANOTHER LAMP-LIGHT PROBLEM.—There is a room of a given area to be lighted by two lamps, each equal in power to the other. How should the lamps be fixed so that the light may be distributed to the greatest advantage, and what the shape of the room when every part of the walls and ceiling shall receive an equal amount of it?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,435.] WAS THERE A HENRY WHITWORTH, NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER?—Who was Henry Whitworth? Timperley, in his *Dictionary of Printing*, says Henry Whitworth established the *Manchester Gazette* in 1730, and that in 1737 he changed its title to the *Manchester Magazine* (p. 643). Harland follows Timperley, and says that Robert Whitworth, the son of Henry, continued the paper (*Collectanea*, vol. ii., p. 105). That Robert Whitworth published the paper in 1738 is certain; No. 94—Tuesday, October 17th—of that year, which is in existence, proves this. It is rather remarkable, however, that Timperley never mentions Robert Whitworth. He tells us that Mr. Whitworth (Henry Whitworth, according to index) continued this paper "till about the year 1750, but his death we cannot find" (p. 673). Now, there are numbers in existence which prove that Robert Whitworth was the publisher of the paper from 1738 to 1760. Has Timperley made a mistake in the Christian name, and, being followed by others, thus given rise to the idea that Robert was the son of Henry, and succeeded him in business?

It is remarkable that Proctor never mentions

Henry Whitworth. In his remarks on the rise and progress of letter-press printers, stationers, binders, booksellers, and newspaper publishers in Manchester (*Manchester Streets*, p. 183), he notices the statement of Mr. Harland in *Collectanea*, and says it is erroneous. He tells us that Robert Whitworth, the printer of the *Manchester Magazine*, was the son of John, the son of Zachary, both of Smithy Door. Both these were booksellers, and can be traced. John died August 2, 1727, aged sixty-four, and was buried at Cross-street Chapel. Zachary's name is found in the poll-book of 1690, and, according to Proctor, was buried November 30th, 1697. He also tells us (p. 193) that "Robert became a master printer while very young, probably upon the decease of his father in 1727." This would be three years before the *Manchester Gazette* was started. He was born in 1707, and consequently would be over twenty-three years of age at the beginning of the *Gazette*—about the same age as Harrop when he started the *Manchester Mercury* in 1752. Who, then, was Henry Whitworth, who is said to have started the *Gazette* and been succeeded by Robert?

Harland further says—on what authority I cannot say—that Joseph Harrop, the founder of the *Manchester Mercury*, served his apprenticeship with Henry Whitworth, proprietor of the *Manchester Magazine* (p. 108). Now we have positive proof from existing numbers that Robert Whitworth was the printer of the *Magazine* in 1738, when Joseph Harrop, who was born in 1728, would not be ten years old; further, there is a volume of poems printed in 1733 by Robert Whitworth when Harrop would only be five years old. If Robert succeeded Henry in business, would it not have been impossible for Harrop to have been the apprentice of Henry, and for Henry to have changed the title of the *Magazine* four years later (1737), as stated by Timperley and Harland. Is it not more probable that there was no such person as Henry Whitworth; that Timperley has made a mistake in the name, writing "Henry" for "Robert;" that Harland and others have copied this, and finding Robert's imprint on the name of existing papers, have concluded that Robert was the son of Henry? That Robert, instead of being the son of Henry, was the son of John, the son of Zachary, and was the founder of the *Manchester Magazine*?

FRED LEARY.

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

Saturday, October 9, 1866.

NOTES.

THE MATHER FAMILY.

[4,436.] I am seeking information concerning the ancestry of the Rev. Richard Mather, who was one of the founders of Massachusetts, and who emigrated from Lowten, near Leigh, in 1596. Richard Mather had a sister named Ellen Worsley. Is it known that she was connected by marriage with the Worsleys of Platt? Were Thomas and Margaret Mather the parents of Richard? Our American historians claim this; also that John Mather was the grandfather of Richard Mather; but all information stops there. Should any of your readers be able to throw the least light on the subject I should be greatly interested.

Two hundred and fifty-one years ago the Rev. Richard Mather, of Toxteth Park, Liverpool, England, landed in Boston, Massachusetts. He was born in Lancashire, England, in 1596, was master of the school at Winwick at the age of fifteen, and later was over a school at Toxteth Park, which was then a suburb of Liverpool. Subsequently he entered Brasenose College, but did not graduate, having accepted a call to settle in the ministry at Toxteth Park. On November 30, 1618, he preached his first sermon. He was ordained by Dr. Morton, bishop of Chester. In 1624 he married Catherine Hoult, daughter of Edmund Hoult, Esq., of Bury in Lancashire, by whom he had six sons—Rev. Samuel, Timothy, Rev. Nathaniel and Joseph, all born in England; and Rev. Eleazar and Rev. Dr. Increase, who were born in Dorchester, Mass. After his marriage he purchased a house at Much-Woolton, three miles from Toxteth. He was twice suspended for non-conformity and decided to remove to New England. In April, 1635, he went to Bristol to take ship for New England. He sailed May 23 on the James, but before the ship reached Boston, on August 15, it was overtaken by a fearful storm, in which three cables and anchors were lost and the sails rent asunder. The storm was allayed and they came safely to anchor before Boston August 17. Mr. Mather remained in Boston for several months, and was solicited to settle at Plymouth, Roxbury, and Dorchester, and with the advice of the Rev. John Cotton and the Rev. Mr. Hooker, he decided upon Dorchester, where August 23, 1636, he was settled, and remained until his death, April 22, 1669.

Four of his sons were noted ministers—the Rev. Samuel, 1626-1670, who died in Dublin, Ireland; Rev. Nathaniel, 1630-1697, of London; Rev. Eleazar, 1637-1669, of Northampton, Mass.; Rev. Dr. Incesse, 1639-1723, president of Harvard College and minister of Second Church, Boston. The other two sons were Timothy, 1628-1684, of Dorchester—the ancestor of a very great number of Mathers, scattered from Maine to California—and Joseph, who died very young.

There were five grandsons in the ministry, all settled in the United States, with one exception, the Rev. Samuel Mather, of Witney, Oxfordshire, England (1674); and three great-grandsons. Fifteen other direct descendants were clergymen, as well as others among the female branches. They have been, as a rule, men of decided character and useful members of society, believing in the motto on the Mather coat of arms, "Virtus vera nobilitas est."

HORACE E. MATHER.

Hartford, Conn., U.S.A.

TWO LETTERS OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

[4,437.] Some few months ago this column was enlivened for several weeks by the reproduction of an old-time love story culled from the rich store of the unique Paston letters, the earliest collection of familiar correspondence in the English tongue. In a volume of the Rolls Series of Chronicles of the Middle Ages, hidden away among dry-as-dust details of subsidies and war preparations, I have come across two letters contemporary with the earlier Paston correspondence, which give us in a very brief space a pleasant glimpse of a fifteenth century family of the middle class. News is received in a quiet Somersetshire village that a youth who had left the place many years before, and whose death in the absence of any word, had long been held as certain is still alive and a prosperous merchant in Rouen. To him his mother writes describing the changes which twelve long years and more have worked in the family circle, and an old schoolfellow reminding him of their former friendship desires his good offices in a certain little matter he has in hand. The letters are given below, with one or two slight changes as they are printed in the Letters and Papers relating to the reign of Henry VI. (edited by the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, vol. ii., p. 303) under date 1440.

1. Isabella Milles to William Milles.

Worshepfulle and right enterly wel-belovyd sone I commande me unto yow with alle my herte, desyrynge

alle tymes to here and know of your good prosperyte and welfare, whiche I praye to Almyghtye God send yow ever after youre owene hertes desire, to His plesaunce. And plesse hit yow to knowe of my welfare; the day of this letter makynge I was in good helthe of body, blessedde be oure Lorde Gode. Furthermore, I lete yow wyte (know) that youre fader ys dede, whiche passede of this wordle at Cresmasse was xii yere; on whos soule Almyghty Gode have mercy, for his beye Godhede! Also William Myles youre uncle and Janet Brokhamp-tonne, youre suster, ben dede bothe, on whos soules God have mercye! And Richard Milles youre brother, and Jonet youre suster, ben alyve and faren welle and recom-maundethe hem unto you with alle here hole hertys. And Cristyan Artoure, youre cosyn, lyveth and fareth welle, blessedde be Gode.

And also I lete yow wyte that the place in Corylarde the whech scholde falle unto yow by dessent after deces of youre fadere forsayde, ys sesyde (seized) into the cheffe lordes handes of the fee for defaute of claym of yow, the which eyoure frendes wolde have sewede (sued) out, yf theye hadde wyst or knowen that ye hadde been alyve.

The writer proceeds to request of him letters of attorney to "Thomas Mucheldever and John Wyde-combe, my hosebande," for the prosecution of his claim, and thus concludes her letter:—

Righte worschepfulle sone, I beseke yow of alle gentelnesse, and hit plesse yow, to send me a letter of youre welfare, and how hit standythe with yow, the whech I hertely desyre to knowe, as Gode wote, wheche have yow in His blessedde keepynge, to his plesaunce evermore durynge. Written at Mertokey the iiii. day of Septembre.
By youre moder

ISABELLE MILLES.

(Endorsed) To my ryghte worschepfulle laterly wel-beloyde sone, Willyam Miles, dwellyng at Rone, be this letter taken in haste.

The second letter, from Sir Robert Laidamis, parson of St. Martin's of Wareham, was written about a fortnight later. The antique spelling of "Sir Robert" is still more eccentric to modern eyes than the worthy Isabelle's.

Worsypfulle and reverent frend and mayster, Y re-commande me to youe wyth alle my hert, desyrynge to here and to knowe of youre wellfare by letter, how hyt stondyth wyth youe. Doynge youe to understond that ye and Y where scollfelaus (i.e., schoolfellows) samtyme at Hybnister, ye beyng at borde att More ys howse, the wyche he re-commande me to youe. Also, Y pray youe that ye wolde be gode mayster and frend to me for a mylstone, for Y have ypray John Penylle to buy one for my mayster. Wherefore I pray youe that ye wylle sende me worde, yn the most secrete wyse what yt costyth; for truly Y wulle chentylmanly aquite youre labour by that nexse messangere that comyth bytwyne youe and me. Also yff ye wulle sende eny worde to youre modyr, sendyth to me to Warham and Y wulle trewly do youre erant. No more to youe att thys tyme, but the Wholy Trynyte have youe in ys keepynge.

Ywrytynge at Warham, the Monday nex byfore sent Mathew ys day. Also Y have ysende youe to letterys fro youre modyre wyth this letter.

By youre owne frend,

SIR ROBERT LAIDAMIS,
Parson of Martyn of Warham.

JAMES TAIT, B.A.

George-street, Cheetham Hill.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

NAMES OF ENGLISH WILD FLOWERS AND BRYONY TENDRILS.

(Note No. 4,414, September 25.)

[4,438.] I am very glad to find that Mr. GRINDON'S list of vegetable martyrs includes only four or five names. I had supposed that he would have been consistent in his treatment of the English names of flowers, and in this supposition I have "immensely overshot my mark," for which bad marksmanship I am far from sorry, Mr. GRINDON'S influence being great. He has now formulated a "common-sense rule," which I had before tacitly assumed for him, namely, that "two plants, totally distinct, should not be called by the same name, especially when there is only one (English) species of each kind." If Black Bryony is to lose its name because it is not scientifically a Bryony, does not this rule require the abolition of the names of the Rock-rose (which is not scientifically a Rose), Knot-grass (not a Grass), Water Violet (not a Violet), and many more. If this is not a common-sense application of the rule, what is the meaning of the rule? What analogy there is in the names Nightingale and Redbreast is beyond my comprehension. My object has been to try to prevent any change by showing what numerous changes and consequent confusion must consistently follow. I trust our readers will be consistent and change none of the old names of wild-flowers.

In his first note he says the tendrils "are apt to curl first one way and then the contrary, changing the direction in the middle of the spire, *and thus obtaining a more certain grip*" (the italics are mine), and in his second letter, "whether we understand the matter or not, the Bryony tendrils do not curl in the way mentioned without a very good creative reason for their doing so. Mr. Willis says he fails to see it." Now, so far from saying that I failed to see it, I tried to show the creative reason for the spiral

and the mechanical necessity for the contrary spiral. If I did not make it clear, I must refer Mr. GRINDON and others to Darwin's interesting *Climbing Plants*. What I did fail to see was how the change in the direction of the coil made the grip more certain. If this could be explained from "first principles" (to which I am referred), the fact (?) could not have escaped the researches of Darwin. If Mr. GRINDON's friend can justify the original statement, and has not been under a misapprehension as to the point to be explained, I trust he will kindly favour us with the explanation.

H. G. WILLIS.

CROMWELL'S BOOTS AT CHETHAM COLLEGE.

(Query No. 4,433, October 2.)

[4,439.] In reply to AN OLD COLLEGIATE (by which I infer he is an old College-boy), as to from whom the late Mr. Jones, the librarian, received Oliver Cromwell's boots, which were exhibited there, I beg to state, being an old boy myself (1849-1854), that I never remember such things being there. There was part of Oliver Cromwell's stone tankard, also his sword, but no boots. My friend Mr. William Rylance, solicitor, Mosley-street, himself an old boy, printed a list of the curiosities, as sung out by the College-boys during Whit-week, for private circulation. If AN OLD COLLEGIATE would write to Mr. J. S. Worrall, secretary of the Old Boys' Association, Paget-street, Rochdale Road, he might give him further information.

JOHN LRA.

Sal.

THE FIRST ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

(Nos. 4,407, 4,420, and 4,423.)

[4,440.] The earliest English Grammar given in the British Museum Catalogue of Early Printed Books is John Stockwood's *Plaine and Easie laying open of the Meaning of the rules of construction in the English Accidence*, 1590, quarto. Then follow the *Grammatica Anglicana*, 1598, supposed to be written by P. Greenwood, Butler's *English Grammar*, 1633, and Daines's *Orthoepia Anglicana: or the first principall part of English Grammar*, 1640. The first Grammar printed in England was probably the one described in the above Catalogue as follows:—"Begin. [Sig. b. 2, recto:] As I muste goo to the mayster, etc. [A Latin Grammar, written in English, with examples.] [Theodoric Rood, Oxford, 1481?], quarto." Of this only a fragment is known. It is in the British Museum.

M. F. L.

THE IRLAM AND WHITNEY FAMILIES.

(Nos. 4,390 and 4,411.)

[4,441.] The Silas Whitney of Liverpool, referred to by "G. P." was probably a son or other relative of Silas Whitney of Buglawton, near Congleton, who, with his wife, is buried in Astbury churchyard. The following is the inscription on their gravestone, which lies on the north side of the church, a few yards from the small door leading into the chancel aisle:—

Here lies interred the body of Silas Whitney, of Buglawton, who died Sept. 24, 1801, aged 79. Also Hannah his wife, daughter of Thomas and Mary Irlam, who died Dec. 21, 1805, aged 79. Also Ann their daughter, who died April 25, 1801, aged 30 years.

Thomas and Mary Irlam, the father and mother of the said Hannah Whitney, are buried in an adjoining grave. If "G. P." will communicate with me through the Editor, I may be able to furnish him with some little additional information respecting the Irlams of Buglawton.

G. H. H.

King-street, Manchester.

THE EDITORIAL "WE."

(Query No. 4,430, October 2.)

[4,442.] The first of any series of newspapers preserved in the British Museum is *The Weekly Newes*, dated May 23, 1622; printed by J. D. for Nicholas Bourne and Thomas Archer. On September 28 following it took the name of *Newes from most parts of Christendom*; London, printed for Nathaniel Butter and William Sheffard. May 12, 1623, we find the system of numbering adopted, when *The Newes of this present Week* is numbered 31. Had the weekly issue been regular this should have been No. 52, so we may infer that there were many weeks when the printer found nothing to communicate, or that the papers did not belong to one series, for the titles were very irregular, being variously *The Last News*, *The Weekly Newes continued*, *More Newes*, and others. Probably some of the numbers were suppressed, for in *The continuation of the forraine occurents for five weekes past*, "examined and licensed by a better and more impartiall hand than heretofore (London, printed January 11, 1640, for Nathaniel Butter, dwelling at St. Austin's Gate)," we find the following:—

Mr. Printer to the Reader.

Courteous reader! We had thought to have given over printing our foreign avises, for the licenser (out of partial affection) would not oftentimes let pass apparent truth, and in other things (oftentimes) so crosse,

and alter, which made us weary of printing; but he being vanished (and that office falling upon another more understanding these foraine affaires, and as you will find more candid) we are againe (by the favour of his Majestie and the State) resolved to go on printing if we shall find the world to give a better acceptation of them (than of late) by their weekly buying them. It is well known these novels are well esteemed in all parts of the world (but heere) by the more judicious, which we can impart to no other but the discontinuance of them and the uncertaine days of publishing them, which if the poste fail us not, we shall keep a constant day everie weeke therein, whereby everie man may constantly expect them, and so we take leave.

From this it would appear that the editorial "we" was adopted as early as 1640. **FRED LEARY.**

Fairfield-street, Manchester.

A MANCHESTER SHORTHAND AUTHOR.

(Note No. 4,423, October 2.)

[4,443.] **Mr. W. E. A. AXON**, in his sketch of **Mr. John Showler Verity**, has made a mistake in the name of his father. His name was **John Verity**, not **William**. **Mr. AXON** says he "does not appear in the Conference List or in the Directory." For the simple reason that, although described as a "Methodist clergyman," he was not a Wesleyan Methodist, but a Primitive Methodist preacher. **Mr. AXON** rightly says "he was a very poor man"—the condition of all the Primitive Methodist preachers at the inception of Primitive Methodism. The pioneers, the first preachers of this subsequently important aggressive religious body, were content to work "for the Lord," without much regard for pay or bodily comforts. When **John Verity** began to preach he received for his own, his wife's, and his children's maintenance, ten shillings a week! Out of that large sum he had to pay the rent of his house and other incidentals, which are now paid by the societies in addition to fair if not very liberal salaries.

John Verity was a "character." He had been a stonemason; the knowledge acquired in that business enabled him to be of considerable use to the Connexion. He not only begged large sums of money for the erection of chapels, but planned and superintended the building of several in various parts of Lancashire. Like most of the early Primitive Methodist preachers, his chief qualification for the work was enthusiasm. At one time it was amusingly said that all that was needed to make a Primitive Methodist preacher was a cut-away coat, a gingham umbrella, a copy of the large hymn-book, and a

capability of singing "We are bound for the Kingdom." It is needless to say that to-day the Primitive Methodist Connexion can take rank for intelligence and usefulness with any of the Dissenting denominations.

Verity lived at a time when teetotalism had not made much progress, and he, like many of his brethren, thought a glass of beer after a day's hard work was needful. A friend who had become an abstainer urged him to give up taking beer as "the custom w'd damage his eyes." "What," said **Verity**, "mun I let the old barn tumble down for the sake of the eye-holes?" He was asked upon one occasion to take the chair at a temperance meeting in his own chapel; nothing loth he did so. In the course of his opening speech he said, "The man that gets drunk should be transported for seven years; and the woman that does not provide her husband with a glass of beer at the end of his day's work should be transported for fourteen years." Of course, he was not asked to take the chair at any more temperance meetings. **Verity** was a big burly man and wore velvet small clothes—as eccentric in his appearance as in his speech. He was a type of the first preachers of a religious society which originated with a few labouring men, but which now, with its interest in nearly every town in the three kingdoms, sends missionaries almost to "the ends of the earth."

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Douglas, Isle of Man.

QUERIES.

[4,444.] **COMMONPLACE BOOKS**.—What is the best system of indexing general notes and cuttings?

LITERARY.

[4,445.] **MONKS HALL**.—"In 1606 **George Birch**, of Birch Hall in Withington, gent., married **Anne**, daughter of **Ellis Hey**, of the Monkes Hall, in Eccles, gent." Where was the Monkes Hall, and how did it get that name?

E. PARTINGTON.

[4,446.] **MANON LESCAUT**.—In the exhibition at the City Art Gallery there is a beautiful picture by **Dagnan Bouveret** entitled "**Manon Lescaut**," a man scraping a grave in the sand with his hands for the body of a lady laid close by. Will some reader kindly tell the story of the picture?

HARTCLIFF.

Saturday, October 16, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CBOMWELL'S BOOTS IN CHETHAM COLLEGE.

(Nos. 4,438 and 4,439.)

[4,447.] In Chambers's *Book of Days*, vol. ii., page 437, is a list of the curiosities at Chetham College, in which is no mention of the Protector's boots. The account concludes with saying that the curiosities have been removed to the Salford Royal Museum, Peel Park. Mr. Plant might say if the catalogue is correct and the articles still in existence under his care.

SAMUEL COTTAM.

CHRETHAM AND CHEETHAM HILL.

(Query No. 4,432, October 2.)

[4,448.] "Cheetham Hill" is a village in the township of Cheetham, and is distant from St. Anne's Square somewhat more than two miles. Halliwell Lane is the boundary of the village, as we go to it from Manchester. This is one foot of the hill. Passing onwards to the Griffin Inn and the Mount College, we find ourselves on the top of the hill from which the village takes its name. From this place to the Robin Hood public-house the descent is considerable. At a short distance beyond the Robin Hood is Boundary-street, which separates Cheetham from Broughton. The natural boundary is a small brook, which runs under this narrow pass called a street. When I was a boy, the Broughton side of the streamlet was meadow land, and the little brook went tinkling on in an open course. The house at the Cheetham corner of Boundary-street was then called the "New Shop," as, previous to its erection, there was only one provision shop in the village, which was known as "Mally Ogden's." Mally's shop stood at the entrance to Chapel Lane. It is now a draper's shop and Post Office.

It was at a spot about half-way between Boundary-street and White Smithy Bar that James Leach, the musical composer, met his death.

SAMUEL HEWITT.

98, Percival-street, C.-on-M.

NAMES OF ENGLISH WILD FLOWERS.

(Nos. 4,414 and 4,438.)

[4,449.] To prolong discussion anent the use and misuse of the name of Bryony would only lead still further and further away from the original point. With every respect for Mr. WILLIS I beg leave accordingly to close it by reminding him that the names he quotes—rose, violet, and grass, with several besides, lily, for instance, and cedar—have in one earlier

form or another been part of the vernacular of civilized Europe for more than 2,000 years. Several names of fruits and vegetables, as pea, bean, apple, and nut, might be added to the list. The 2,000 years' established use of these names in the broad and collective sense in which they appear in rock-rose, Dames's violet, and the like, is altogether different from the mistaken and local application of the name of Bryony to the Tamus, and, as I have said before, should not be confounded with the latter. It is in respect of their 2,000 years' employment in the ordinary vocabulary of Europe that such names as rose and violet correspond with the names of nightingale and redbreast. Mr. WILLIS might well fail to discover any "analogy" between them, since not a particle of analogy exists—if I understand his use of the word. I forbear from conjecturing what Mr. WILLIS proposes to mean by "vegetable martyrs." I thank him, all the same, for his kind considerateness in referring me to Darwin's essay on *Climbing Plants*. The recommendation comes, however, a little late, as the author himself kindly sent me a copy, with his autograph, two or three days after it was printed. LEO GRINDON.

Manchester.

THE STORY OF MANON LESCAUT.

(Query No. 4,446, October 9.)

[4,450.] HARTCLIFFE asks for the story of Bouveret's picture in the City Art Gallery. Perhaps it may interest him to be acquainted in the first place with the source of its inspiration.

Manon Lescaut is one of the French classical novels which, I believe, was recently dramatized in London under the title of *Manon*. The story is one of the Abbé Prevost's masterpieces, and describes the vicissitudes of an unmarried French couple, who may be said to love each other to madness. It is a splendid attempt to illustrate the force of the passions and the necessity of subjugating them. The object of the author, in the words of M. Moylan, who wrote a preface to the novel in 1841, is to portray "a blind and wayward youth who obstinately refuses to be happy; who voluntarily plunges into the deepest misfortunes; who, with all the qualities calculated to secure to a man the most brilliant fame, prefers of his own choice an obscure and vagabond life to all the advantages that nature and fortune can furnish; who foresees his misery without endeavouring or even wishing to avoid it: perfectly sensible of his degradation, and sinking beneath its

weight, but without profiting by the opportunities of redemption that are incessantly presented to him, and by which he may at any moment end his sorrows and his shame; in short, a character infirm of purpose, a compound of virtues and vices, a perpetual contrast of good feelings and bad actions—such is the groundwork of the picture that is here presented.” The character of Manon exactly corresponds with that of the youth thus described. Around this pair of thoroughly Parisian characters the Abbé Prevost has encircled an enchanting train of circumstances quite in accordance with the French literary mode.

The incident upon which M. Dagnan Bouveret has seized for his picture in the Manchester City Art Gallery is the burial, in the plains of New Orleans, of the lovely Manon, her death having taken place during her flight with her lover from a French convict settlement. The words which the great French novelist has put into the mouth of his “hero” at this juncture deserve to be quoted in order to explain the pathos which the artist has so beautifully portrayed on canvas:—

She died. I received the purest assurances of her love even at the very instant that her spirit fled. My spirit was not destined to accompany Manon. Doubtless Heaven did not as yet consider me sufficiently punished, and therefore ordained that I should continue to drag on a languid and joyless existence. I remained for twenty-four hours without taking my lips from the still beautiful countenance and hands of my adored Manon.

My intention was to await my own death in that position, but at the beginning of the second day I reflected that after I was gone she must of necessity become the prey of wild beasts. I then determined to bury her and wait my own doom upon her grave. From the sandy nature of the soil there was very little trouble in opening the ground. I broke my sword and used it for the purpose, but my bare hands were of greater service. I dug a deep grave, and there deposited the idol of my heart, after having wrapt around her my clothes to prevent the sand from touching her. I kissed her ten thousand times with all the ardour of the most glowing love before I laid her in this melancholy bed. I sat for some time upon the bank intently gazing on her, and could not command fortitude to close the grave. At length, feeling that my strength was giving way, and apprehensive of its being entirely exhausted before the completion of my task, I committed to the earth all that it had ever contained most perfect and peerless. I then lay myself with my face down upon the grave, and closing my eyes with the determination never again to open them, I invoked the mercy of Heaven and earnestly prayed for death.

THOMAS H. HAYHURST.

Bury.

[Mr. W. P. Welch, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts, and other correspondents, have also obligingly sent replies.—Ed.]

COMMON-PLACE BOOKS.

(Query No. 4,444, October 9.)

[4,451.] For the past twelve years I have been in the habit of indexing my reading and newspaper-cuttings on the method recommended in Todd's *Student's Manual*, and have come to recognize both the merits and failings of that system. Assuming that LITERARY may not be acquainted with this method of keeping an Index Rerum, I will describe it on the lines laid down in the above-named book. I took a small octavo note-book of about 300 pages, ruled a marginal space one inch and a half wide down the left side of each page, and printed a running alphabet on the top corners, giving ten pages to each letter. To further subdivide the entries I took the five vowels in combination with the initial letters, and gave two pages to each. The first few pages of the Index are headed Aa, Ae, Ai, Ao, Au; then come Ba, Be, Bi. The headings to the entries are written in the margin, under the letter with which they begin and with reference to the first vowel which they contain; thus, “Achilles” would go under Ai, “Breathing” under Be. The following extracts from my own Index will show this more clearly:—

C. O.

COMMON-PLACE BOOK.. G. A. Sala, in *Illustrated London News*, Feb. 12, 1881. Todd's *Student's Manual*, 1881. *Literary Ladder*, p. 71. *Tom Jones*, book vi., chap. 10.

CONFUCIUS Scrap-book iii., p. 21. Scrap-book vi., p. 198.

COMBINATIONS, MATHE- } Jevons' *Principles of Science*, p. 178
MATICAL }

W. A.

WAUGH, EDWIN..... Scrap-book iii., p. 38. p. 69. Scrap-book vii., p. 36.

WAXWORKS *Old and New London*, ch. iv.

WARDLEY HALL Scrap-book v., p. 76. Scrap-book vii., p. 98

WHALES Evelyn's *Diary*, June, 1658, and Mar., 1699.

The scrap-books mentioned are the ordinary Newspaper Cutting Books of 200 pages each. The above is the whole of Todd's method, and for a time all went swimmingly. Like a diligent student, I made notes of all striking articles in the magazines, secured in my scrap-books all interesting bits from the newspapers and periodicals, and promptly booked them in my Index for future use. Soon, however, difficulties arose. I began to find that I could not get all my entries on the page where they ought to go. Some subjects overflowed their limits of two pages, while other pages were almost unused. Then I realized

that I wanted to insert extra leaves in certain parts of my book. This is a difficulty which I have not yet overcome, preferring to put up with some inconvenience rather than transcribe all my entries afresh. But if I had to begin such an undertaking again I should certainly use loose papers of a uniform size, lettered as above, and kept in one of the numerous file cases, such as the "Paragon," which can be had cheaply. These are got up to look like a book, and have a spring clip at one end for holding the papers securely,

In entering the references it seems to be advisable to have only one heading on each paper, so that the references can increase to any extent by the addition of other papers. It is useless to give any advice as to what to copy out in full and what to merely refer to, or as to choice of headings for the various subjects, for every person will naturally find out what is most convenient for himself. I may remind LITERARY that it is sometimes well to index an item under several different heads, and would also call his attention to the handy method of booking the pages in a fractional form, as in the examples above. The bottom number denotes the number of pages in the book, the top number gives the page referred to. The use of this is that, in any other edition of the book, containing a different number of leaves, the correct page can be readily found by a rule of three sum.

ARTHUR BOWES.

YORKSHIRE WILLS.

(Query No. 4,431, October 2.)

[4,452.] The answer to your correspondent's inquiry as to whether there "were any other centres besides York in which Yorkshire wills of the last century were proved," is by no means easy to give. The two chief Courts of Probate at York were the Exchequer Court and the Prerogative Court. The wills of persons who died within the diocese of York, which comprised all the parishes in Yorkshire (which were not within the diocese of Chester or in which peculiar or exempt jurisdiction did not exist) were proved in the Exchequer Court, with the exception of the wills of beneficed clergymen, some of which were proved in the Consistory Court. If, however, any persons died anywhere in the province of York leaving *bona notabilia* anywhere within that province, then their wills would be proved in the Prerogative Court at York and not in the Exchequer Court; as would also the wills of those who died outside the province, leaving *bona notabilia* within it. In the

case of the clergy, if they left *bona notabilia* within the province of York, then their wills were proved in the Prerogative Court and not in the Consistory Court, which really contains comparatively few late wills.

Then, again, certain parishes were within the jurisdiction of the Dean and Chapter of York, and the wills of persons dying in those parishes (without *bona notabilia* in any other diocese or jurisdiction within the province of York) were proved in the Dean and Chapter's Court. During the period of the vacancies of the See of York, wills were proved in the Court of the Dean and Chapter. There were also very many "Courts of Peculiar Jurisdiction," generally called "Peculiars," where probate of wills was granted. Some of these were under the ecclesiastical supervision of the Dean and Chapter, who had what was called "contentious jurisdiction" over them; whilst others were free from this contentious jurisdiction. The number of the Peculiars in the first division was, at the beginning of this century, thirty-one. The Peculiars coming under the second division were of more importance, the most important being the Peculiar Court of Southwell, that of Selby, and that of Snaith. In a few instances there were Peculiars, situate within the county of York, but belonging to the church of Durham, the wills of which were sent to Durham.

In the Consistory Court of Richmond in Yorkshire, the wills of persons belonging to that portion of Yorkshire which formed part of the old diocese of Chester, were proved. This comprised the deaneries of Boroughbridge, Catterick, and Richmond, and the Yorkshire portion of the Deanery of Lonsdale. Here again the wills of those who died leaving *bona notabilia* within the province of York, would be proved at York and not at Richmond. The Richmond wills prior to 1748 were, a few years since, taken to Somerst House, London.

It is impossible to be more explicit in a short communication, for the whole subject is beset with difficulties. Even the alphabetical "List of the Parishes and Chapelries, within the counties of York and Nottingham, as are not within the ordinary Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of York, in matters of Probate and Administration," with notes on the same, fill nearly forty octavo pages, closely printed! Again, the question of what constituted *bona notabilia* has been the subject of many trials at law, and a handbook has been written on it.

Pensarn, Abergele, N. Wales.

J. P. EARWAKER.

QUERIES.

[4,453.] SHADOW-MOSS.—Where was the village which, at one time, was called Shadow-Moss?

B. M.

[4,454.] INSCRIPTION IN POYNTON CHURCHYARD. Could any of your readers give me the translation of the inscription over the door of the ancient building in Poynton Churchyard? JOHN W. OLIPHANT.

[4,455.] "NO GOOD GRUNDYS."—I am told there is a saying in Lancashire as follows:—"There are no good Grundys." It evidently relates to a family of some position noted for their stinginess, and appears to be purely local. Can any reader name the locality or the circumstances which caused the saying?

J. LELAS.

[4,456.] HUNTS OF NEWTOWN, COLLYHURST.—The writer will thank any reader who will kindly furnish the fullest information possible, as to dates and other matters of a genealogical character, of one John Hunt, who at one time kept the White Hart public-house, situated in Newtown, Collyhurst; also of his son of the same name.

B. M.

[4,457.] HENRY HOUGH, ENGRAVER.—"Henry Hough, of Northen Etchells, died 30 Dec., 1727, aged fifty-five, famous throughout the kingdom for his skill in the art of engraving, in which he has not left his equal." This is an inscription on a tombstone in Northenden Churchyard. I shall be glad of some details concerning Mr. Hough's life.

M.

[4,458.] AUTHORSHIP OF BOOK.—Can anyone inform me who was the author or compiler of a curious little book which bears the following title: "A Thousand Notable Things on various subjects disclosed from the Secrets of Nature and Art; being a rich cabinet of select Curiosities and Rarities?" It was published in Manchester by Hopper and Co., Swan Court, in 1800. It professes to give valuable hints for the housewife and the doctor, and remedies for every disease to which man is subject. E. PARTINGTON.

[4,459.] GLACIATION.—In the quarry (limestone) near Castletown, in the Isle of Man, where the drift accumulation is taken off the rock, which there dips at about the angle of the shore, the surface of the stone is found weathered into those curious inequalities which one notices on the limestone fells, as about Grange and Cartmel-in-Furness, and on the slopes of Ingleborough. But some of these rounded rugosities have the tops planed off and glacially scratched. Perhaps some of our geological authorities would explain how this has come about?

S.

Saturday, October 23, 1866.

NOTES.

METHODISM IN IRLAM.

[4,460.] Passing the place of business of a friendly chimney-sweeper, who unites the two congruous trades of a dealer in soot and in second-hand books; and seeing four volumes bound in "under-done pie-crust," somewhat ancient in appearance, I ventured a bid of a shilling for the four, and became at once the possessor of *The Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer*, by Richard Burn, LL.D., so that now I shall soon be as "fause as a boggart." Upon overhauling my purchase I find that the books belonged, in 1778, to a Mr. John Clough. Where John Clough lived or what he was does not appear. I take it he must have been a Justices' clerk somewhere within the Hundred of Salford, for those parts of the book most used are much underlined, while the margin is often filled with notes and forms, of which the following is a specimen, and may be interesting to some persons in the neighbourhood of Irlam:—

To His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the county of Lancashire.

We the undersigned John Yates of Irlam, in the parish of Eccles, in the said county, weaver; Peter Shaw of Irlam aforesaid, carrier; and Peter Yates of the same place, weaver, do hereby humbly certify that a chapel or meeting-house hath been lately erected by certain Protestant Dissenters called Methodists at Irlam aforesaid, and is intended to be used for the religious worship of that sect, and we pray that the same may be recorded at the general Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for the said county, according to the directions of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the first year of the reign of their late Majesties King William and Queen Mary, intituled "An Act for exempting their Majesties Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England from the penalties of certain Laws." Dated this 7th day of January, in the year of our Lord 1804.

J. YATES.
PETER SHAW.
PETER YATES.

County Palatine of Lancaster to wit.

These are to certify that at the general Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held by adjournment at the New Bayley Court House within Salford, in and for the county Palatine of Lancaster, the 18th day of January, in the forty-fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Third, a certain chapel or meeting-house lately erected in Irlam in the parish of Eccles, in the said county, was certified to the Justices here assembled as a place of congregation or assembly of religious worship, and that the same was recorded at this Session pursuant to an Act of Parliament made and

passed in the first year of the reign of their late Majesties King William and Queen Mary, intituled "An Act for exempting their Majesties Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England from the penalties of certain Laws."

E. GORST,

Deputy Clerk of the Peace for Lancashire.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

Morley Cottage, Leigh.

HOW THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF FIGURING GREW IN ENGLAND.

[4,461.] In Tourist's notes of the quaint old town of Kirkby Lonsdale in the *City News* of October 9, a man is said to have discovered in the year 1808 figures on several of the beams in the church of the Norman period showing the date to be 1149. I should like to dispute the correctness of this discovery, and to state that it involves an utter impossibility. For this reason, the Arabic or Indian figures were not introduced into England till long after A.D. 1149, and then their application to what is called the denary scale only very slowly and gradually got into general use. The Latin language was universally used by scholars, and they used the Roman letters in lieu of Arabic figures, and by means of accumulation rather than by the denary method high numbers were then invariably expressed. Instead of the neat expression of the date named thus—1149—it would have been clumsily expressed thus—MCXXXIX. The happy idea of using the cipher and affixing a local or positional value to figures was very slow in taking root.

We gained a splendid secret when we first obtained it, but most men could not understand it a bit, and clung to the Roman cumulative method of expressing numbers in preference; and they mixed together Roman and Arabic figures in the oddest fashion. For example, at Oxford the college bursars' accounts of the fourteenth century abound with such hybrid figuring as X6 for 16, XX1 for 21. Evidently it was not known that the position of the first figure if 1 would have the value of 10, and if 2 stood there it would suffice to express 20; and if any figure beyond twenty and less than ten required expression, it could be done by putting it in the place of the ought and instead of it. When this had been mastered they could not carry out the idea, applying it to hundreds—they learnt slowly and by stages. A tomb at Norbury Church, Derbyshire, displays the earliest advance I have met with, the date on it (1473) being engraved thus—MCCCC73. At Helmdon, Hants, eighty years later, a further advance is manifested,

though still complete and perfect knowledge is conspicuously wanting, the date 1553 is put down thus, M553. It was several generations before the full use of the cipher was capable of being generally understood. Of course a septenary scale might have been adopted instead of a denary one (and if like the Romans, the Arabs or Hindoos had not found the means to express VIII and IX by one figure, the denary scale could not have been adopted). In a septenary scale, 14 (in denary) would be represented by 20; and 21 (in the denary) by 30.

Not till about 1550 was the indiscriminate use of Arabic and Roman figures discontinued. It is an interesting circumstance that that Arabian production, an Almanac, was the popular educator in this important matter. Many copies of John Somers's Calendar, long ago published regularly at Oxford, have a table showing how to read "Algorismum" arithmetically. This, I presume, is what is meant by this word. I specially refer to the copy for A.D. 1385, in which I am told that a note states as follows:—"Its (Algorismum's) usefulness consists in this, that a great number may be comprehended in a compact form (*in brevi satis spatio*), but the numbers inserted in this Calendar do not go beyond 60" (*ultra illum summam non est protensa*).

Experienced antiquaries will not be misled by the perplexing shape of very ancient fives, since it is now admitted that the wavy and very one-like stroke did not stand for 1; it represented 5. The French still make five in a very ill-defined way, from this being the original model. It was owing entirely to ignorance on this point that "the Jews' House," Lincoln, for a long time got the repute of being the oldest inhabited house in England. The date on it seemed to indicate that it was built in the twelfth century, but the second figure really and truly was not 1—it meant 5; and so the building is 400 years later as regards its date than is supposed. I expect the Kirkby Lonsdale date is properly 1549, owing to a similar mistake in reading the figures. The date at Helmdon above referred to, viz., M533, for a time was incorrectly read as meaning 1133.

I request as a favour the insertion of La Place's words of high praise on the denary system. They will be read, I think, with pleasure by many. He says:—

The idea of expressing all quantities by the nine figures, whereby is imparted to them both an absolute value, and one by position, is so simple that its

very simplicity is the reason for our not being sufficiently aware how much admiration it deserves. But it is just this simplicity and the facility which calculations acquire by it, that raises the arithmetical system of the Indians to the rank of one of the most useful and indispensable inventions. How difficult it was to discover such a method may be inferred from the circumstance that it escaped the talents of Archimedes and Apollonius of Perga, two men of the most profound genius of antiquity.

JOHN GODSON.

Ashby Folville Vicarage, Melton Mowbray.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

AUTHORSHIP OF BOOK—"A THOUSAND NOTABLE THINGS."

(Query No. 4,458, October 16.)

[4,462.] A copy of this little book came into my hands some years ago, and like your correspondent Mr. PARTINGTON I desired to know something more about it and its author or compiler. A cursory examination showed that, notwithstanding its imprint, the book had no local interest whatever, and, judging from some information given at the end respecting the London Courts of Law, I took it to be a reprint of some old London published book. I was confirmed in this impression by afterwards seeing another little volume entitled *The Queen's Closet Opened*, dated about 1684 (I quote from memory) and containing similar fearful and wonderful recipes. I have, however, since come across what is undoubtedly the original of the book referred to, namely, a small quarto volume, the body in black-letter, published exactly three hundred years ago, namely:—

A Thousand Notable Things of Sundry Sortes, whereof some are wonderfull, some straunge, some pleasant, divers necessary, a great sort profitable, and many very precious. . . . At London, imprinted for Edward White, dwelling at the litle north-doore of Paules, at the signe of the Gunne. Anno Dom. 1586.

The book is inscribed in a fulsome (characteristic of the age) but cleverly alliterative dedication to "The right honorable, vertuous, and affable Lady Margaret, Countesse of Darby, by Thomas Lupton."

This volume, which can be seen at the chief Reference Library (cat. No. 27866), is well worth perusal, and will give a good idea of what our ancestors in the days of "good Queen Bess" were prepared to swallow—literally and figuratively—literally, as regards the abominable messes they poured down their throats, and figuratively, the astounding stories

they accepted as facts. The difference between the two books is but slight. It is probable, however, that the Manchester one was copied from a modernized edition of the original, as it contains at the end some additional and more recent matter.

My copy of the Manchester edition bears marks of being well studied, and evidently has been much appreciated, being marked with crosses and many recipes being annotated "good" and "tried," and I have no doubt the book would be popular and sell well amongst our grandfathers here at the beginning of the present century. I need not add that most of the "notable events" narrated are, to say the least, apocryphal; the medical and other recipes all doubtful, many detestably nasty, and some absolutely poisonous. The whole is leavened with astrological and other superstitious nonsense. Perhaps, however, the least said upon the latter the better even in 1886. "Napoleon's Book of Fate" and "Fortune Tellers" are still good saleable stock with the minor booksellers and newsagents.

H. B. REDFERN.

Moss Side.

* * *

The curious book mentioned by Mr. E. PARTINGTON is one that has frequently been printed and reprinted. It first appeared in 1586, and was the work of Thomas Lupton, a miscellaneous writer of the Elizabethan age. The first edition of *A Thousand Notable Things* is now a rare book, but there is a copy in the Manchester Free Library. Additions and omissions have been made by subsequent editors. The book is partly a collection of recipes and partly a miscellany of anecdotes interesting for the light they throw upon the folk-lore of the past. A considerable number of the articles are translated from the Latin of Mizaldus.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

Higher Broughton.

SHADOW MOSS.

(Query No. 4,453, October 16.)

[4,463.] Shadow Moss, or more properly Shadow-Moss-Nook (anciently Shadoke Moss), is at the southern end of Northen Etchells, adjoining Styall. A moss formerly lay between Styall and Northen Etchells, called Shadoke Moss, upon which there was a Blacklache, and the Three-Lane Ends, where the smithy and the Tatton Arms stand, is Shadow-Moss-Nook, in Northen Etchells, within the parish of

Northern. This hostelry was formerly kept by a very worthy man, named Owen Garner, whose memory is worth preservation. From the Northern side of Shadow Moss the water runs to the Mersey; while from the southern (the Styall) side, it runs to the Bollin.

WILLIAM NOBURY.

CHEETHAM AND CHEETHAM HILL.

(Nos. 4,432 and 4,448.)

[4,464.] I am sure my friend Mr. SAMUEL HEWITT will pardon me if I assure him that he has fallen into a mistake when he wrote that Cheetham Hill is a village in Cheetham. A village within a township is an impossibility. He seems to have felt this when he named only two points as defining the boundary of Cheetham Hill. The truth is that Cheetham Hill, Miles Platting, Longsight, Fallowfield, Greenheys, Old Trafford, Seedley, Wallness, and Charlestown, are all places or localities which have each a name as indicating a neighbourhood; but none of them has a recognized boundary or any legal existence.

HENRY PAULDEN.

A MANCHESTER SHORTHAND AUTHOR.

(Nos. 4,408 and 4,443.)

[4,465.] Mr. JOSEPH JOHNSON says that I am mistaken as to the name of Verity's father. My authority, as I think the article itself will show, is the biography of Verity issued by his widow. Presumably the information came from Verity himself, and may, if erroneous, afford a fresh illustration of the adage that "it is a wise child that knows its own father." I shall therefore leave Mr. JOHNSON and Mrs. Verity to settle what was the correct name of her father-in-law. And now let me express my thanks to Mr. JOHNSON for his sketch of the eccentric "Primitive." It would be a pity if such a character had passed entirely unchronicled. Mr. JOHNSON has from time to time in your pages shown the possession of an ample and entertaining fund of information respecting Manchester men and matters of a bygone generation. It would be a good thing if he were induced, in some systematic fashion, to commit his reminiscences to the safe keeping of type and ink.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

Higher Broughton.

CROMWELL'S OLD BOOTS.

(Nos. 4,483, 4,489, and 4,447.)

[4,466.] In November, 1860, the feoffees of the Chetham Library disestablished the old collection of

"curiosities" from the walls of the Library, and sent some of them to the Museum in Peel Park. The carefully-made-out "schedule" which came with them, and which is now before me, shows that fifty-four articles were presented, upon my undertaking that "so far as is practicable they are to be cleaned, preserved, and placed in the Museum." Thirty-six of these were crocodiles, alligators, lizards, turtles, jaws of sharks, odd parts of fishes, bones, and oddments of what once had been specimens of natural history. They were all much damaged and coated with smoke, paint, and dirty varnish. The remaining nineteen articles included Indian arrows, snow-shoes, baskets, gourds, and other barbaric articles; a skeleton of a man black with smoke and dust, and minus a lot of his bones; the "hairy mon" (a young ourang outang); also an anatomically injected body of a deformed youth; and, lastly, "th' owd woman's clog." About a dozen of the whole lot were destroyed, for they were worthless or not fit objects for our Museum. The others can be seen in the Museum at the present time. There were no "old boots" of Cromwell or any other celebrity. The feoffees considerably retained the armour, swords, weapons, instruments, and other articles of any real value, as may be seen by a careful examination of the catalogue printed in the *Book of Days*, referred to by Mr. COTTAM; and these are probably carefully preserved in, and yet to be seen at, the Chetham Library.

JOHN PLANT,

Curator Peel Park Museum.

QUERIES.

[4,467.] **TIMPERLEY HALL.**—Who was the owner of Timperley Hall, near Altrincham, about the year 1766, and are there any particulars obtainable about the place before that time?

S. J. WOOD.

[4,468.] **SHIRES.**—It would be interesting to have a list of the districts, other than now recognized counties, that have been or are dignified with the title of "shire," and an account of the reason of their being so distinguished; and whether they were ever practically counties, and if so, why and when they ceased to be such? I have noticed, amongst others, Allertonshire, Blackburnshire, Hallamshire, Howden-shire, Mashamshire, and Richmondshire.

S.

[4,469.] **VERSES ON THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE.** Can anyone supply me with the words of some

verses describing the Books of the Bible? The first two lines are as follow:—

In Genesis, the world is made by God's creative hand;
In Exodus, the Hebrews marched to gain the promised land.

I had the verses when a boy, and lately have inquired at the Bible Society and Religious Tract Society, but they cannot help me. In 1856 they were sold in Liverpool in a printed leaflet. W. B. ADAMS.

[4,470.] **THE UNION MILL: A PUBLIC TRUST.**—Some years ago there stood on the plot of land in David-street, which is now occupied by the warehouse No. 56, Princess-street, a corn mill, on the front of which was an oval stone tablet bearing an inscription which set forth that "This mill was built by public subscription," in the year ——. It was called the Union Mill, and the public-house opposite took its name therefrom. If the mill was built by public subscription, what has become of the trust then created? who has conveyed the land to the present owner? and what has been done with the purchase money? HENRY PAULDEN.

MAKING PAPER OUT OF TOBACCO WASTE.—A new use for the tobacco plant is said to have been discovered in America. Its stem and waste, it is claimed, are equal to linen rags in the manufacture of paper. Tobacco waste costs less than £2 a ton, linen rags £14 to £16. There is no expense in sorting the former, and very little shrinkage, as against the loss of one-third on rags. The yearly tobacco waste is estimated by the United States census reports at from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 pounds.

AMERICAN ABBREVIATIONS OF THEIR STATE NAMES.—It often puzzles an Englishman to thoroughly grasp the system of abbreviation used by the people of the United States, when writing the various names of the States and territories in the Union. Two plans are adopted: one is like the English—to use the first syllable—as Conn. for Connecticut, Penn. for Pennsylvania, Del. for Delaware; the other consists in taking the first and last letter. Examples of the latter are Me. for Maine; Vt. for Vermont; Ga. for Georgia; and Md. for Maryland, and Ky. for Kentucky.

FEES IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—The London Burns Club calls attention to a grievance in connection with Westminster Abbey. They were desirous of placing a medallion of Sir Walter Scott in the English Walhalla, but on counting the cost they discovered that there was no less than one hundred pounds in fees to be paid to the Abbey officials. Probably the Dean and Chapter have no power to remit this tax, but Westminster Abbey is the property of the nation, and there ought to be no monetary hindrance to the erection there of memorials of the men and women of whom the nation is justly proud.

Saturday, October 30, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"NO GOOD GRUNDYS."

(Query No. 4,455, October 18.)

[4,471.] In answer to your correspondent, J. LELAS, I have heard the saying, "There are no good Grundys," as belonging to the Tyldesley district. Perhaps some of your correspondents in that neighbourhood could tell us the origin. A. Z.

KIRKBY LONSDALE CHURCH.

(Note No. 4,461, October 22.)

[4,472.] The Rev. Mr. Godson's scepticism about the date in Kirkby Lonsdale Church is shared by Canon Ware, the present vicar of Kirkby Lonsdale, who read a paper before the Antiquarian Society of Cumberland and Westmorland on the tenth of August, 1870, in which he says:—"About 1806 the old roof was taken down. Some of the oak beams are said to have borne the date MCXLIX. If this be true (and I am told that the date was read by a person well skilled in antiquities), the beams must have belonged to the Norman roof and have been used again in the Tudor roof. But I can hardly believe in a date cut in a beam at such a period." Perhaps the letter read as C should be D. W. WIPER.

Higher Broughton.

CROMWELL'S BOOTS AT CHETHAM COLLEGE.

(Nos. 4,423, 4,429, 4,447, and 4,466.)

[4,473.] The boots alleged to be Oliver Cromwell's were hung over the entrance to the Reading Room, to the left of the skeleton of the highway robber referred to by Mr. PLANT. I wrote to Mr. Worrall, but received no answer. I regret his silence, because he would have been able to state if the boots were exhibited earlier than 1858 (he being an older boy than I), from which year to 1860 I can testify as to their exhibition in the College Museum. No doubt additions were made at various times, one of which I remember about 1859, which was described as follows:—"This is the skeleton of a mouse found in the position of eating its own toe nails, by the Rev. Canon Wray, in the Manchester Cathedral." I presume this will be omitted in the lists of curiosities by Chambers and Mr. Rylance. For this reason (accepting the statement of Mr. Lea that the boots were not exhibited up to 1854) my conclusions are that all additions

between these dates, 1854 and 1859, are as yet omitted in any printed lists of curiosities belonging to the College Museum. I hope this deficiency will not be seen in the Rev. Mr. Henn's Memoir of Richard Hanby, late governor of the above College.

Mr. PLANT kindly informs us that many articles of value were retained by the feoffees. In a room adjoining the library I remember waving the colours carried by the Manchester Volunteers at the siege of Gibraltar, and also flourishing the sword with the white haft, "which once belonged to General Wolfe." There were four swords, and in my time (1858 to 1860) the other three were not described.

JOHN CRABTREE.

C.-on-M.

CHEETHAM AND CHEETHAM HILL.

(Nos. 4,432, 4,443, and 4,464.)

[4,474.] As Mr. PAULDEN has deemed my note on Cheetham Hill worthy of his criticism, I should be wanting in courtesy if I left his remarks unnoticed. He thinks I am in error when I state that Cheetham Hill is a village in Cheetham; he asserts that "a village within a township is an impossibility." If Mr. PAULDEN will consult the *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales*, he will find a multitude of instances subversive of this assertion. Take the following:—

Broughton, a township chapelry on the river Irwell, in the parish, and within the borough, of Manchester. Includes the village of Kersall.

Cheetham, a village, a township, a sub-district, and two chapelries in Manchester Parish, Lancashire. The village bears the name of Cheetham Hill, stands within the Manchester Borough $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.W. of the centre of Manchester, and has a Post Office under Manchester. *The township includes the village*: is all suburban to Manchester: contains numerous villas of Manchester merchants and manufacturers, and was long the residence of the ancient family of Chetham.

Now with respect to the two places I have named as the boundaries of the village, Mr. PAULDEN must admit that the boundary of a hill is its base line; this being so, the two points named in my note are natural boundaries. And then as to its lateral extension, in addition to its strongly marked base, a part of Broughton on one side and of Crumpsall on the other, constitute as distinct natural limits as the most captious objector can require. But we are told that Cheetham Hill has no "legal existence (what-

ever that may mean). We know, however, that it has an actual, a positive existence, as well as Pendle Hill, though its altitude is not so great.

SAMUEL HEWITT.

Perdval-street, C.-on-M.

VERSES ON THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE.

(Query No. 4,469, October 23.)

[4,475.] A large number of correspondents have obligingly sent copies of the verses on the Books of the Bible inquired for by W. B. ADAMS, including Annie Bradshaw, of Lostock, near Urmston; H. J. Oldham, Salford; C. E. Priestley; T. T. Hayes, of Leigh; F. L. Potts, of Brunswick-street, C.-on-M.; J. W. Fitton, Hyde Road; as well as several anonymous writers. The lines are as follows:—

OLD TESTAMENT.

In GENESIS the world was made by God's creative hand;
In EXODUS the Hebrews march'd to gain the Promised Land.

LEVITICUS contains the Law, holy, and just, and good.
NUMBERS records the tribes enroll'd—all sons of Abraham's blood.

Moses, in DEUTERONOMY, recounts God's mighty deeds.
Brave JOSHUA into Canaan's land the host of Israel leads.
In JUDGES their rebellion oft provokes the Lord to smite.
But RUTH records the faith of one well pleasing in His sight.

In First and Second SAMUEL of Jesse's son we read.
Ten Tribes in First and Second KINGS revolted from his seed.

The First and Second CHRONICLES see Judah captive made
But EZRA leads a remnant back by princely Cyrus' aid.
The city walls of Zion NEHEMIAH builds again;
While ESTHER saves her people from plots of wicked men.
In JOB we read how faith will live beneath affliction's rod,
And DAVID'S PSALMS are precious songs to every child of God.

The PROVERBS like a goodly string of choicest pearls appear.

ECCLESIASTES teaches man how vain are all things here.
The mystic SONG OF SOLOMON exalts sweet Sharon's Rose;
Whilst Christ the Saviour and the King the "rapt ISALAH" shows.

The warning JEREMIAH, Apostate Israel scorns;
His plaintive LAMENTATIONS their awful downfall mourns.
EZEKIEL tells in wondrous words of dazzling mysteries;
Whilst kings and empires yet to come, DANIEL in vision sees.

Of judgment and of mercy, HOSEA loves to tell.
JOEL describes the blessed days when God with man shall dwell.

Among Tekoa's herdsmen AMOS received his call;
Whilst OBADIAH prophesies of Edom's final fall.
JONAH enshrines a wondrous type of Christ our risen Lord.
MICAH pronounces Judah lost—lost, but again restored.
NAHUM declares on Nineveh just judgment shall be poured.

A view of Chaldea's coming doom HABAKKUK'S visions give;

Next ZEPHANIAH warns the Jews to turn, repent, and live
HAGGAI wrote to those who saw the Temple built again

And ZECHARIAH prophesied of Christ's triumphant reign.
MALACHI was the last who touch'd the high prophetic
chord ;

Its final notes sublimely show the coming of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT.

MATTHEW and MARK, and LUKE and JOHN, the Holy
Gospels wrote,

Describing how the Saviour died—his life—and all he
taught.

ACTS prove how God the Apostles own'd with signs in
every place.

St. Paul, in ROMANS teaches us how man is sav'd by grace.

The Apostle, in CORINTHIANS, instructs, exhorts, reprovea.

GALATIANS shows that faith in Christ alone the Father
loves.

EPHESIANS and PHILIPPIANS tell what Christians ought
to be ;

COLOSSIANS bids us live to God and for eternity.

In THESSALONIANS we are taught the Lord will come
from Heaven.

In TIMOTHY and TITUS a Bishop's rule is given.

PHILEMON marks a christian's love, which only Christians
know.

HEBREWS reveals the Gospel prefigured by the Law.

JAMES teaches without holiness faith is but vain and
dead,

St. PETER points the narrow way in which the Saints are
led.

JOHN, in his three Epistles, on love delights to dwell.

St. JUDE gives awful warning of judgment, wrath, and
hell.

The REVELATION prophesies of that tremendous day,
When CHRIST, and CHRIST alone, shall be the trembling
sinner's stay.

QUERIES.

[4,476.] "CALLING A SPADE A SPADE."—Can
any one throw a little light upon the origin and
meaning of the oft-repeated English saying, "Call a
spade a spade?" S. H.

[4,477.] THE MERSEY FROM CHEADLE TO
FLIXTON.—Can any readers supply me with in-
formation respecting the banks confining the
waters of the river Mersey from Cheadle to Flixton—
the date of their erection, by whom done, and at
whose cost; and who is responsible for their main-
tenance? CHEADLE.

THE AUTHOR OF "D'YE KEN JOHN PEEL."—
The death is announced of John Woodcock Graves,
author of the popular hunting song "D'ye Ken John
Peel," who died at Hobart Town, August 16. The Mel-
bourne newspapers say he was 100 years old; but it is
asserted that he was not more than ninety-six or ninety-
seven. He was a native of Wigton, Cumberland, and
established himself as a woollen manufacturer at Cald-
beck, whence he emigrated with his wife and family to
Tasmania. This famous song is known all the world
over, wherever Cumbrians congregate.

Saturday, November 6, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

"NO GOOD GRUNDYS."

(Nos. 4,455 and 4,471.)

[4,478.] An old man whom I saw this week, and
who lives at Astley and is eighty-two years of age,
remembers the saying, "There are no good Grundys,"
as referring, when he was a boy, to a family at Astley,
but he could not give me the origin. We have good
Grundys at Tyldesley, for there is one John Grundy,
that gives an annual treat to all the old people of
Tyldesley over sixty years of age.

JOHN HARDMAN.

Tyldesley.

CHEETHAM AND CHEETHAM HILL.

(No. 4,474 and others.)

[4,479.] In support of Mr. HEWITT I would refer
your readers to Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*,
wherein it will be found that Cheetham is a Chapelry
in the Parish of Manchester and Hundred of Salford,
and embraces St. Mark's Church and the old Wes-
leyan Chapel and burial ground. It seems pretty
clear, therefore, that the Township of Cheetham does
comprise the Village of Cheetham Hill.

J. PRYOR.

Perth-street, Cheetham Hill.

* * *

I do not blame Mr. HEWITT for thinking that his
quotations from the *Imperial Gazetteer* prove his
declaration; but he is quite wrong. It is purely a
question of interpretation. The *Gazetteer* simply
states what is popularly and locally understood and
admitted, viz., that a certain part of Broughton is
known as Kersal, and that a certain part of Cheetham
is known as Cheetham Hill. Neither Kersal nor
Cheetham Hill has any defined boundary. Part of
Kersal is in Prestwich, and part of Cheetham Hill is
in Crumpsall. It is manifest that Mr. HEWITT's
statement of the boundaries of Cheetham Hill is
incorrect. The Tramway Company's Office, the
Cheetham Hill Cemetery, the Wesleyan Chapel, the
Social Club off Woodlands Road, are all in Cheetham
Hill, but are all outside the boundaries named by
Mr. HEWITT. The first three places named are in
the township of Crumpsall, the last in Cheetham.
Thus we are brought back to my first declaration

that Cheetham Hill and the other places I named, with others I might name, are simply districts, with a local name, but having no recognized boundaries either on Ordnance maps or else.

HENRY PAULDEN.

CROMWELL'S BOOTS.

(Nos. 4,473 and others.)

[4,480.] My memory of the College Museum goes back so far that dates are lost in the mists of obscurity. Yet I can scarcely be wrong in saying that as far back as 1835, or even 1830, something belonging to Oliver Cromwell was exhibited there; and I have an impression that the something would be boots. Whatever it might be it was then lying at the bottom of a glass case lining the wall leading to the reading-room—a wall now, I believe filled with book-shelves. The boys used to jabber away so fast, and pass from one thing to another so rapidly, that the eye could scarcely follow the guiding hand or words. But I know more than once I made an attempt to realize what the "Oliver Cromwell" relic was, or rather which it was. I was sorry when I heard that the old museum had been carted away from its proper home. There the things had a value lost entirely in removal to Peel Park, and in dissociation from the old College walls.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

* * *

It may interest Mr. J. CRABTREE (Reply 4,473), and perhaps other readers, to know that there are still preserved in the College five old swords, a halbard, a pike, and a gun. A short time before his death, the late Mr. Hanby, of Chetham College, consulted me about their future preservation. The blades of some of the swords were very much bent and twisted, as though they had been in a fire. I straightened these, and arranged to meet Mr. Hanby the following week to assist him to varnish the weapons so as to prevent further corrosion, and to arrange them as a trophy in the Dining Hall. His sudden illness, followed so soon by his death, however, prevented this arrangement being carried out.

The gun is an old Moorish one. Three of the swords are what are generally described as claymores, but more correctly as broadswords, being such as were commonly used by horsemen in the seventeenth century. One of these, Mr. Hanby informed me, was said to have belonged to Napoleon I. There is, how-

ever, nothing about it to render such an ownership probable. The fourth sword is of a form general in the time of Charles I. This sword is a fine specimen, its blade being by Andrea Farara. The fifth, now hanging over the small door in the corner of the Hall, is that attributed to General Monk. It would be interesting if any of your readers could say upon what authority the swords were attributed to Napoleon and General Monk.

W. WARRING FAULDER.

Arts Club, Manchester.

QUERIES.

[4,481.] PROFESSOR DRUMMOND'S BOOK.—Can any reader supply me with a list of books, replies, and magazine articles referring to Professor Drummond's *Natural Laws in the Spiritual World*?

W. T. B.

[4,482.] THE COCKADE.—On Thursday I saw a coachman with a cockade in his hat, yet his employer does not, nor never did, hold Her Majesty's Commission. What is the rule about the cockade? Perhaps some of your readers can tell me.

ANTI-SNOB.

[4,483.] THE OLD SARDINIAN THEATRE.—In the interesting notice of a Manchester incident in the career of the late G. L. Hatton, the composer, contributed to the *City News* of October 2, the writer ("J. G. H.") speaks of "the old Sardinian Theatre on the site of the older Theatre Royal in Fountain-street." What was this theatre, and why called "Sardinian?"

A. GRACE.

[4,484.] A TYBURN TICKET.—What is the nature of a Tyburn ticket? By what Act did it come into force, under what penalty or forfeiture is the criminal liable to, and what compensation is allowed the person who arrests a criminal under the Act and obtains a Tyburn ticket? Any other information which any of your correspondents can give in regard to this would oblige, and no doubt edify your readers.

WILLIAM SYKES.

[—]

ENGLISH GAME BIRDS IN AMERICA.—English pheasants are being imported into the United States by Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, the Transatlantic millionaire. He is trying to acclimatize the birds in a special game preserve near Oakdale, Long Island, and some of the flock came from the Prince of Wales's own coverts.

Saturday, November 13, 1886.

NOTES.

JOHN WESLEY AND ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,
PENDLETON.

[4,485.] In the *Manchester Historical Recorder* I find, under date 1766, "St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, erected at the expense of Samuel Brierley, Esq. It was originally occupied by the Wesleyan Methodists, but was consecrated July 6. The Rev. Mr. Pedley was appointed minister."

In the *Salford Weekly News* there is a statement given by the late incumbent, Rev. W. J. Smith, which is considered as authoritative; in one part of it there are these words, "There is a tradition that John Wesley preached in the old chapel." The Rev. John Wesley writes in his journal of Wednesday, April 6, 1774, "I preached at Pendleton Pole, two miles from Manchester, in a new chapel destined for a church minister, which was filled from end to end."

JAMES STELFOX.

Southport.

THE BYRONS AND SADDLEWORTH: CURIOUS DEED
ABOUT CHURCH SEATS.

[4,486.] About a month since I was shown the following deed, which is written on a sheet of foolscap. It is in the possession of Miss Jane Nicholson, of Lees, near Oldham. She is a lineal descendant of the John Whitehead named in the deed. He was a solicitor of Lydgate, Saddleworth. Of Squire Andrew I can learn nothing, except that he also lived at Lydgate. I shall be glad if any of your readers can give some particulars of his family.

I, Richard, Lord Byron, Baron of Rathdale, doe hereby lycense and allow Squoire Andrew and John Whitehead, both of Saddleworth in the County of Yorks, to have theire seuerall seats or stalls in the Qyire of the Church att Sadleworth aforesaid, in the seuerall stalls wher they have beene accustomed to sitt the yeare past. Givean at Newstead the xxijth day of October, Anno Dom., 1668.

BYRON.

The occasion of the deed was that during the Commonwealth, those who had taken the seats formerly held by the loyalists, having got much better sittings than they had previously, refused to give them up. According to tradition in the family, this dispute about seats went on for many years, until John Whitehead referred to Lord Byron, who was Lord of the Manor of Rochdale, and his deed given above seems to have settled the matter. Do any of your readers know of any similar deeds, or

why the appeal should be made to the Lord of the Manor instead of the Vicar of Rochdale? Another point of interest arises out of the document. The Richard who signed the deed was the second Lord Byron, and the Byron family were Lords of the Manor of Rochdale from 1638 to 1823. You will see that this deed is not only curious but important, for Baines in his *History of Lancashire*, vol. ii., page 623, says, "The manorial rights of Rochdale are reputed to extend . . . including that portion of Saddleworth which lies within the parish of Rochdale." Canon Raines (*Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. xix., Chetham Society, page 122) says on this, "Neither is it correct that the Rochdale manorial rights include Saddleworth." This deed, therefore, rather goes to show that Baines was right.

JOHN HOLLINSHEAD.

Werneth, Oldham.

CHETHAM COLLEGE CURIOSITIES.

[4,487.] I enclose a list I prepared a few years ago of the curiosities that were, prior to 1860, to be seen in Chetham College. I believe most of them were sent to Peel Park Museum in that year; some are there now, and others destroyed. Those not sent to the Museum were two watch-bills, six swords, the two colours carried by the Manchester Volunteers at the siege of Gibraltar in 1782, a gun taken from the dead body of a Frenchman at the battle of Waterloo, Oliver Cromwell's stone tankard, a boot that once belonged to Queen Elizabeth, two pieces of wood that were almanacks before printing was invented, a piece of Roman pottery, and part of a shield found in Castlefield in 1728. I cannot help thinking it will be instructive and interesting to ascertain the names of the donors of those mentioned, when they were presented, and the history connected with each of the articles. I shall esteem it a favour if some of your readers will kindly give the information; and I am confident all those who took an interest in that noble institution will be grateful.

WILLIAM RYLAND.

76, Mosley-street, Manchester.

FIRST GALLERY.

That's a Snake.

*Over its back are two watch-bills.

*Those four are Ancient Swords.

*That sword, with a white haft, once belonged to General Wolfe.

That top one is an Alligator.

That bottom one a Crocodile.

*Those two Colours were carried by the Manchester Volunteers at the siege of Gibraltar, in the year 1782.

That top one, with a white face, is a Monkey.

At the right side of the monkey there is a Green Lizard.

At the left side of the monkey a land Tortoise.

That black one is part of a Whale's bone.

That flat one is a Tortoise.

That, as if it were creeping down the wall, is a brown Lizard.

At the side of the lizard there is a Dog Fish.

Over the dog-fish there is a young Ass' jaw-bone.

At the side of the Ass' jaw-bone there is a porpoise's skull

That Bow and those Arrows once belonged to the North American or Dog-rib'd Indians.

That long thing at the bottom is the skin of a snake.

That's an Indian Basket, and

That's the fin of a Sword Fish.

SECOND GALLERY.

First Wire.

That's the Head of a Wild Albatross.

*That Gun was taken from the dead body of a Frenchman at the battle of Waterloo, in the year 1815.

*That is part of Oliver Cromwell's Stone Tankard. Those two are Indian Nuts.

That is the Skeleton of a Male Child.

*That is the Hand of an Egyptian Mummy.

*That Boot once belonged to Queen Elizabeth.

Second Wire.

*Those two pieces of wood were Almanacks before printing was invented.

*That's a piece of Roman Pottery found in Castle Field in the year 1728.

That's part of a Shield found in Castle Field in the same year.

That's the Haft of the Whip that killed the snake.

That's a Hippopotamus' Double Tooth.

That's its Single Tooth.

That's an ancient Stiletto or Spanish Dagger.

Those two are a pair of American Snow Shoes.

That top one is a Hairy Man.

Under the hairy man is a Leathern Bag.

Under the leathern bag there is a Shark's Mouth.

At the side of the hairy man's left leg there is the Back-bone of a Shark.

*At the side of the back-bone of a shark there is Oliver Cromwell's Sword.

At the side of the sword there are two Cocoon Shells.

At the side of the shells there is a Porpoise's Skull.

Over the skull there is a Turtle.

At the side of the turtle there is a Sea Hen.

At the side of the sea hen there is the Fin of a Shark.

That top one is an American Weed.

Under the weed there is an Alligator.

At the end of its mouth there is part of an old woman's Clog that was split by a thunder bolt, and she was not hurt.

Under the alligator there is a Crocodile.

At the end of its tail there is a Snow Shoe of a Laplander.

Over its last leg there is a Turtle's Head.

Over its belly there is the Fin of an Unicorn Fish.

At the end of its mouth there is part of a young Shark's jaw-bone.

That in the small frame is the Skeleton of a Nightingale. And that is the Skeleton of a Man.

READING ROOM.

This table is cut and carved so queer that it contains as many pieces of wood as there are days in the year—365.

That is a picture of Mr. Thyer, one of the late librarians of this College.

That is a picture of Humphrey Chetham's Nephew; his name was James Chetham.

That is a gift to Humphrey Chetham, Esq., 1655.

That is a picture of William Whittaker, the distinguished martyr.

That is a picture of Alexander Nowell, one of the late deans in St. Paul's Church, London.

That is a picture of the First Minister who ever preached in Manchester Cathedral; his name was Robert Bolton, born in Blackburn.

This Clock used to strike once a year; presented by Nicholas Clegg, 1695.

That is a picture of John Bradford, martyr under Queen Mary.

That is a picture of the Right Honourable Richard Bootle Wilbraham, late Member of Parliament.

That is a picture of the late Earl of Wilton.

That Cock crows when it smells roast beef.

That is a picture of Wilbraham Egerton, Esq.

That is a picture of Carlos Lawson, late Head Grammar School Master.

That is a picture of Humphrey Chetham, Esq., founder of this Hospital, and those are his Coat of Arms.

That is a picture of the Rev. James Lloyd, late Rector of Radcliffe.

That is a picture of Sir Joseph Radcliffe.

That is the shape of a Pelican pecking its breast, and feeding its young out of its own blood; and

THAT'S THE WAY OUT!

The objects in the Reading Room were not sent to Peel Park, nor were the articles which are marked in the above list with an asterisk. W. R.

* * *

The young Oldhamers, and for the matter of that the old ones too, who were thought too good to go to the races in Whit-week, used to be treated to a round in "th'ould College." The first time I was there, now some fifty years ago, I remember how much I admired the long-robed, clean-looking, bare-headed lad who took our party round, and how we wondered at his monotonous "gift of the gab" as he hurried us along the library and museum, open-eyed, open-eared, and some of us, I have no doubt, open-mouthed, unable to see half of the wonderful things he was showing. However. I have a dim recollection of seeing what were called Oliver Cromwell's boots, which had been long strangers to

Berry's (?) blacking. But what were they to the wonder of "Nan-of-the-Dingle's clog split on her foot by lightning." Ann lived in the Dingle, which runs between Sholver Moor and Shaw. She had a narrow escape of life, one of her clogs being split up on her foot by a flash of lightning. This was thought so much of at the time, that the broken clog was taken to the College Museum to be exhibited among the other curiosities. And if Cromwell is famous in British, Old Ann is no less so in local history. She has left us a saying, which is now invariably said when any elderly couple get married. A neighbour going to tell her—as a secret of course—that two of her friends who were well advanced in years were about to be married, Nan, in a tone of profound philosophy, exclaimed, "Well, its nobbut what we all have to do." However, Ann falsified her own proverb, for she didn't, but died a spinster at a good round age. The house, one of two small cottages, in which she lived, is now pulled down.

W. BOOTH.

Oldham.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE SARDINIAN THEATRE.

(Query No. 4,483, November 6.)

[4,488.] For "theatre" read circus. This was a wooden structure, erected some thirty-two or three years ago on the old Fountain-street site. It was built by and for an equestrian company, who called themselves the Sardinian Troupe—hence the name. The name of the principal was, I think, Ernani. They met with only a moderate success, although their performances were good. Afterwards the building was used, or rather advertised to be let, for public meetings; but it had not a long existence, as the ground was sold for the purpose of building the late Mr. Daniel Lee's warehouse.

J. G. H.

PROFESSOR DRUMMOND'S BOOK.

(Query No. 4,481, November 6.)

[4,489.] Perhaps it may be of some assistance to "W. T. B." if I say that on August 4, 1883, there appeared an article in the *Spectator* on "Scientific Laws and Christianity," followed by a voluminous correspondence in the same paper. In the judgment of many this article of the *Spectator's* and the correspondence which followed were really the cause of the wonderful sale of Drummond's book.

A notice of the book appeared in the *British*

Quarterly, and also in the *London Quarterly*, about April, 1884, the former article being by Mr. J. J. Murphy, author of the *Scientific Bases of Faith*, a book published in 1873.

A searching examination of two chapters of Drummond's (*Biogenesis and Degeneration*) will be found in the *Expositor* for January, 1884, over the well-known signature "Almoni Peloni." An attempt to defend Drummond's main points will also be found in the *Expositor* for April and May, 1885. Then there are two pamphlets published by Alexander Gardner at one shilling each, (1) *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*. By a Brother of the Natural Man; (2) *Professor Drummond and Miracles*. By a Layman.

Again, we have a volume by our townsman, the Rev. T. C. Finlayson, entitled *Biological Religion*, published by Brooks and Chrystal. The extent of the sale of Drummond's book is astonishing. If the reading of the book corresponds with the sale, there must be a great awakening of thought. The value of the work as a positive argument to show the extension of natural laws to the spiritual world is about worthless. Tested by the light of Scripture, ethical science, or reason, the contentions of the book (except as very beautiful parables) fall like a house of cards.

JAMES ANDERTON.

Irlam Road, Flixton.

TYBURN TICKETS.

(Query No. 4,484, November 6.)

[4,490.] Tyburn Tickets came into existence by a statute passed in 1699. In order to encourage the apprehending of certain felons, especially those guilty of robbery on the King's highway, and political offences, certain statutes were passed in the years 1692, 1694, 1699, 1707, 1720, 1741, and 1742, which granted a reward of a sum of money, ranging from ten to fifty pounds, to anyone who, by his energy or evidence, was the means of bringing to justice an offender. By the Act of 1699, in addition to the reward of money, an immunity from all parish offices was granted, and these certificates of exemption were known as Tyburn Tickets. Some who were especially active against offenders gained two or three such tickets, one for every case they undertook, and they frequently sold them for large sums to others.

This system of rewarding informers was grossly abused, and the police officers made a regular trade of it, inciting people to commit crimes in order to gain a Tyburn Ticket. Several cases of this outrage

of justice are on record. In 1756 a man named M'Daniel confessed that he had caused by his testimony seventy men to be condemned to death. Bad as this would be at any time, it was especially so when death was the penalty for the most trivial offences. In one case it was proved that four constables had induced some women to pass counterfeit coin and then seized them in the act.

These infamous Tyburn Tickets were finally abolished by Parliament in 1818 (58 Geo. III.) One of the last holders of them in Manchester was the notorious Joe Nadin.

E. PARTINGTON.

* * *

On October 3, 1816, my father purchased, for £250, a Tyburn Ticket from Mr. Stephen Sheldon, who had received it for having prosecuted to conviction one David Singleton for burglary. The ticket relieved the possessor "from all and all manner of parish offices."

B. ST. J. B. JOULE.

Rothsay.

QUERIES.

[4,491.] PARISH REGISTERS.—What is the legal fee for liberty to search parish registers for literary and antiquarian purposes?

INQUIRER.

"SHAKSPERE'S FEMALE CHARACTERS."—In a new edition of Lady Martin's (Miss Helen Faucit) essays *On Some of Shakspeare's Female Characters*, the object with which she has consented to publish her views on the subject is thus stated:—"My best reward would be that my sister-women should give me, in return, the happiness of thinking that I have helped them, if ever so little, to appreciate more deeply, and to love with a love akin to my own, those sweet and noble representatives of our sex, and have led them to acknowledge with myself the infinite debt we owe to the poet who could portray as no other poet has so fully done, under the most varied forms, all that gives to woman her brightest charm, her most beneficent influence."

"MASSAGE."—A new employment for women, which promises to be lucrative, is now attracting some attention. It is "massage," which may be briefly described as a way of relieving pain by a new method in rubbing—"thumbing" in fact. A lady gifted with a strong pair of thumbs and a delicate touch would be certain to get constant employment through the proper medical channel. Or she might set up for herself, and make her address and terms known by sending cards to doctors, friendly tradesmen, and round her own circle. The remuneration is good, varying from 5s. to 10s. 6d. an hour. The process is easily acquired. In rheumatic or neuralgic cases the affected muscle is manipulated by thumb pressure, gradually worked upwards as far as possible. The relief is intense. The Empress of Germany, who is a martyr to neuralgia, is "massaged" every day by an old woman retained for the purpose. Already several ladies are in full work in London.

Saturday, November 20, 1866.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CHETHAM COLLEGE CURIOSITIES.

(No. 4,487, November 18.)

[4,492.] I shall be glad if any of your readers will say who presented "Nan of the Dingle's Clog," and when, and in what year, the clog was split by lightning.

WILLIAM RYLAND.

Mosley-street, Manchester.

THE MERSEY FROM CHEADLE TO FLIXTON.

(Query No. 4,477, October 30.)

[4,493.] In reply to the question in reference to the river embankments between Cheadle and the river Irwell, I beg to state that the property owners and the tenants made the embankment, and the tenants keep in order the inside and the landlords the outside embankment. If any part of the embankment breaks the tenants assist one another in putting it right.

NO NAME.

CALL A SPADE A SPADE.

(Query No. 4,446, October 30.)

[4,494.] There does not appear to me to be anything recondite about this saying. John Knox used it when he said, "I have learned to call wickedness by its own terms; a fig a fig, and a spade a spade." Probably this may be the origin of the phrase. As to its meaning, the saying is simply directed against the too common practice of speaking in a round-about fashion of something that is condemnable; of wrapping it up in conventional or euphemistic terms.

ION.

* * *

"S. H." asks for the origin and meaning of this phrase. Its general acceptation is to call things by their plain names, and not seek to gloss over objectionable matters by pleasant circumlocution. But the word "spade" is always wrongly understood to signify the common implement of digging, whereas it derives from the Latin spado, a eunuch, and in the old dictionary of N. Bailey we find the word Spade with this meaning, but the explanation is given in somewhat coarser language. Nares evidently overlooked this meaning of Spade, or he would not have asked, as he does in his Glossary:—"Why was a spade rather than a poker, or hoe, or plough, or pitchfork, or any other implement especially chosen to enter into this figurative expression?" He answers by saying that the reason why is not clear. Just so; but he was not on the right track. Halliwell, also, in his *Archaic and Provincial Dictionary*, seems not to know this peculiar meaning of spade, though he

quotes the following couplet from Taylor, the Water Poet:—

I think it good plaine English without fraude,
To call a spade a spade, a bawd a bawd.

Here it is evident, from the juxtaposition of "spade" and "bawd," that the ordinary meaning attached to the former word cannot be the correct one, as the following line from Dr. Donne's *Satires* clearly proves:—

I call a bawd a bawd, a spae'd a spae'd.

Donne wrote before Taylor, when, perhaps, the spelling of "spae'd," from the verb to spae or spay, to castrate, had not become corrupted into "spade."

F. SILKSTONE.

Manchester.

QUERIES.

[4,495.] **ENGLISH v. GERMAN.**—Which language can claim to have the oldest literature? Information as to earliest writers in these languages will oblige.

P. J.

[4,496.] **THE BOYDELL FAMILY.**—Can any reader oblige me with the earliest record of the settlement of the Boydell family in Pennington or Leigh district, and where they came from?

FITZ-TEZZON.

[4,497.] **WELSH AND JEWISH NAMES.**—How is it that many distinctive Welsh names are also borne by (in some cases with a slight difference of spelling) people of Jewish nationality, as Davies (Davis), Lewis, Morris (Moritz), Price, and Phillips?

J. H. B.

[4,498.] **LANCASHIRE FAMILIES.**—Can any correspondent give particulars as to relationship of the Bradford, Lancaster, Aldersey, Astley, and Hodgson (Lancashire) families? A flagrec of Bromwich Castle, Staffordshire, made by the Misses Bridgman; also a Book of Prayer by the Rev. Samuel Aldersey, used in Wigan Church in the reign of Queen Anne, is in possession of the inquirer, lately arrived from Australia.

J. BARKER.

[4,499.] **POEM AND AUTHORSHIP.**—For some years I have tried in vain to discover the author and title of a small poem or satire, I think on the former abuses in fees at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. It was about a goblin or brownie, who charged pence to all comers. I regret I can only remember a few lines:—

A copper from Squire and a copper from Dame,
And still he sits on at the churchyard gate,
And gorges the "browns" at the olden rate.

M. V. SPRAGUE.

Edinburgh.

THE HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE.

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY PALATINE AND DUCHY OF LANCASTER. By the late Edward Baines, with the additions of the late John Harland and Rev. Brooke Herford. A new, revised, and enlarged edition by James Croston, F.S.A. Part I. Manchester: John Heywood.

Mr. Croston is encountering an arduous task. He has undertaken to re-write the *History of Lancashire* upon the basis which was first laid down by the late Edward Baines, and was afterwards revised and extended by the late John Harland and the Rev. Brooke Herford. We are not sure that it would not have been better to begin the whole afresh. The pitfalls are many, and, where the work is done in the true and thorough historic spirit, the consultation of the original authorities for the verification of the text is quite as great in building upon the foundations of a former author as in digging the ground anew and beginning at the beginning. On the other hand there are obvious advantages in having the outline marked out and to a large extent filled in; and any way Mr. Croston has elected to avail himself of the labours of his predecessors. The extent of his additions, however, shows that he does not intend to take matters easily. For example, in this first part—for the History is to be issued in monthly instalments—the matter which filled only twenty of the large quarto pages of the Harland-Baines edition is here expanded to thirty-two, the twelve extra pages representing Mr. Croston's fresh contributions, inserted here and there, to the text as it was left in 1868 by Mr. Harland.

It must be confessed that in the first two chapters, which bring the History down to the end of the Saxon and Danish dynasties, the amount of information about Lancashire is extremely meagre. Lancashire, indeed, did not become a county until almost all the others in England had been constituted; and before the Norman Conquest, and, indeed, for many years after, the southern portion formed a part of Cheshire (Cestrescire), and the district north of the Ribble was included in Yorkshire. The land was scarcely inhabited, and consisted almost entirely of moss, moorland, and forest. What, under such circumstances, is a historian to do? Mr. Croston, like his forerunners, has chosen to describe the

general course of events in England, incorporating such stray and shadowy incidents as bore upon the history of the still unnamed and politically non-existent county. The fragments that bear witness to the Roman occupation are duly set forth; and here Mr. Croston is able to score an advance on Mr. Harland, owing to the researches of recent years in regard to the Roman roads. His account of these, aided by a map, is a great accession to the *History*. We note by the way that he unhesitatingly accepts the old road over Blackstone Edge as Roman; and makes no reference to the very careful evidence accumulated by the late Mr. Henry Cunliffe, and published in our columns some three years ago, which, to say the least, certainly throws grave doubt on the assumption that the road was of Roman construction. Another considerable improvement is made by Mr. Croston in the portions referring to the Arthurian victories, and the battles of Maserfield, Billangahoh (near Whalley), and Brunanburh. A veil of mystery hangs around these events, and must ever hang, and all the evidence is of the most shadowy kind; but such as it is, Mr. Croston has dealt with it well. In his second part he will move towards slightly more substantial ground, and documents of some importance, covering the Norman period, have either come to light or been made accessible since Mr. Harland wrote: We shall not attempt to notice the work as it comes out month by month, but when it has advanced somewhat we shall examine the progress made and the success achieved. Mr. Croston will doubtless have the good wishes of many in his endeavour to bring into order the accessions of late years to our knowledge of the history of the county.

LAPLAND V. BILBAO IRON ORES FOR ENGLAND.—Mr. Consul Drummond Hay, in a report to the Foreign Office, says that the concession for the construction of the Lulea railroad was granted by the Swedish and Norwegian Governments in 1882, and in the following year a British company was formed, now known as the Swedish and Norwegian Railway Company, Limited. The works on the Swedish side were formally inspected in October last, and found to be thoroughly well executed. It is believed that next summer the line will be laid from Gellivaara to Lulea, when the celebrated Gellivaara iron ores, containing 70 per cent of metallic iron, will at once be brought into the market. This must have great influence in promoting the British iron industry, as it is calculated that the ores can be delivered in the North of England at a price per ton not exceeding those of the Bilbao mines, which only contain about 50 per cent of metallic iron.

Saturday, November 27, 1866.

NOTES.

THE ABDUCTION OF MISS TURNER.

[4,500.] The annulling of the marriage of Miss Lena Scott with Mr. Sebright has recalled to memory the famous abduction case of Miss Ellen Turner, which sixty years ago ended in a similar result. Miss Turner, a heiress, was abducted in 1826 from a school in Liverpool by Edward Gibbon Wakefield, afterwards known as an author and colonial pioneer, assisted by his brother William. They brought Miss Turner to Manchester, then took her to Gretna Green, where a form of marriage was gone through, and then went through London to Calais, where Miss Turner was rescued by her uncle. The two brothers Wakefield were sentenced each to three years' imprisonment, and the marriage, which had not been consummated, was dissolved by Act of Parliament. I am able to add a few facts of local interest to this brief outline of a case which caused extraordinary excitement at the time.

The step-mother of the two Wakefields, Edward Gibbon and William, for which lady a *nolle prosequi* was entered, was a Miss Davies, the daughter of Dr. Davies, headmaster of Macclesfield Grammar School. Her marriage with the father of the Wakefields was kept a close secret for some time, and the revelation was the cause of her father's death, for at the time it was said that he died of a broken heart immediately afterwards. It was therefore needless for the young men to go very far afield for information as to Miss Turner's expectations. One of the uncles who followed Miss Turner to Calais was a Mr. Critchley, a lawyer of Macclesfield, a colliery proprietor at Shrigley, and a very wealthy man. He was married to the sister of Miss Turner's mother, and it was well known that his fortune would ultimately go to Miss Turner.

Miss Turner had at least three relatives residing in the immediate neighbourhood of Manchester. Her father's brother, Mr. Turner, lived at the Woodlands in Crumpsall, the house afterwards occupied by Mr. Alexander Henry, M.P.; another uncle, Dr. Turner, lived in Piccadilly; and her cousin, Miss Turner, was married to the late Mr. Thomas Warner, stock and share broker, also of Crumpsall.

Miss Turner was a fine, big, romping girl, very

womanly for her youthful years. I happen to know the house at which she was staying two or three days before her second marriage with Legh of Lyme. She was following some demure relative down the hall staircase, when Miss Turner nearly frightened the life out of the old lady by leaping down three or four of the bottom stairs.

She was married to Legh of Lyme at Prestbury Church. At Lyme Hall there is a marble bust of this unfortunate girl, and also a portrait, well remembered of all visitors to this house, of her husband dressed in an oriental costume. The issue of this marriage was one daughter, who married — of Shrigley. Her's at least was an eventful life. She was abducted, married, divorced by special Act of Parliament, married a second time, became a mother, and died in London on her way to the Isle of Wight, at the early age of twenty-three!

J. C. LOCKHART.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE MERSEY EMBANKMENTS BETWEEN CHEADLE AND FLITTON.

(Nos. 4,477 and 4,493.)

[4,501.] Although the questions asked by your correspondent, CHEADLE, have been partially answered by NO NAME, the above subject is one which can hardly be satisfactorily disposed of by a statement containing no reference to any authority, especially having regard to the facts proved in the case of "The King on the prosecution of the Trustees of the late Duke of Bridgewater v. Thomas Joseph Trafford and others," reported on the hearing in the King's Bench in 1 Barnewall and Adolphus, 874, and in the Exchequer Chamber in 8 Bingham, 204.

In the case just mentioned the defendants were indicted at the Lancaster Summer Assizes, 1829, for having on the first of January, 1770, and on other days, raised divers mounds near the ancient banks of the River Mersey and Chorlton Brook, near the plaintiff's aqueduct [i.e., the aqueduct of the Bridgewater Canal crossing the Mersey valley between Stretford and Sale] and severally continued the same so raised, whereby water was at divers times forced against the said aqueduct, and the sides and foundations thereof and of the said canal adjacent thereto, which water ought to have flowed, and but for the said mounds would have flowed and escaped by other

ways, viz., over parts of the banks of the river and brook. The indictment then proceeded to allege injury to the canal, to the damage of persons using the same, and of the inhabitants and occupiers of the lands adjacent, &c. Further counts made technical variations in the allegations summarized above.

At the trial the jury acquitted some of the defendants, and as to others found a special verdict, stating (*inter alia*) the following facts;—

In 1763 the navigable canal mentioned in the indictment was made in pursuance of an Act 2 Geo. III., c. 11 The canal extends for half a mile north and south across a vale, through which the River Mersey runs in a westerly direction. [Here follows a precise description of the aqueduct, and particularly of the single arch through which the river runs, and of the three arches nearer Stretford, which carry off the flood-water.] About 800 yards above the aqueduct the river is joined from the east by Chorlton Brook and after this junction the river, which had before flowed northward, turns immediately to the west.

On each side of the river, and also of the brook, there are now artificial banks called fenders, made to prevent the water, in times of flood, from overflowing the adjacent lands; these fenders have from time to time been raised as occasion required by the proprietors and occupiers of the adjoining lands; and the fenders on the banks of the river on the north side are now three feet higher than they were twenty years ago; the fenders on the northern banks of the brook, two feet three inches higher than they were at the same period. Before the banks of the river and of the brook were so raised, the water of the river, in times of flood, was frequently penned back up the brook, and, together with the water of the brook, ran over the north bank of the brook, and inundating certain lands made its way to the three arches above mentioned on the north side of the river. After passing through these, it flowed along a low tract of land until it fell into the river again at a place called Ermston [Urmston] two miles from the said three arches, inundating in its course, both above and below the arches, many hundred acres of land and otherwise doing much mischief. No regular watercourse was ever kept open for the flood-water. Since the banks of the river and of the brook have been raised as above mentioned, the flood-water, whenever it has overflowed or broken down the banks of the brook, has taken the same course to the three arches. At times, since the making of the canal, the water of the river has overflowed the banks above its junction with the brook, and has inundated a tract of land on the south and west of the river; and by reason of the embankment on which the canal is raised and of the want of sufficient outlets underneath, this flood-water has (particularly in the year 1806) broken down the south bank of the river between the aqueduct and the brook, passed across the river, and broken down the north bank, and then, after inundating the adjoining lands, flowed down to the three arches before mentioned. In 1806 the trustees of the Duke of Bridgewater on complaint from the landowners on the north bank of

the river, made them compensation* for the damage so sustained. . . . They have also, from time to time, repaired the south bank of the river and the fender thereon to the extent of 50 yards eastward from the canal.

The verdict then described the particular fields and fenders belonging to the several defendants, and it appeared that every fender was much higher than the land to the north of it, and that the fenders on the banks of the river and brook had been raised from time to time within the last six years, and kept and continued so raised by the defendants severally in their respective occupations, but not jointly. And after dealing with the levels of the river-bed and adjoining lands, and referring to a disastrous flood in July, 1828, and to the fact that improved drainage had caused an increased flow of water in the river, the findings proceeded.

. . . . The raising of the fenders on the banks of the river and of the brook has occasioned a much greater quantity of water to flow to the aqueduct in high floods than did or could flow to it for several years immediately after it was built, and has rendered it insufficient for the passage of the water in high floods, and thereby greatly endangered the canal. If the fenders on the banks of the river and of the brook were reduced to the height at which they were twenty years ago, a great part of the waters of the river and brook in high floods would overflow the banks of the brook, and inundate the neighbouring lands, and would take the direction in which the flood-water used formerly to flow to the said three arches, and thence to Ermston; but many hundred acres of land would thereby be inundated, and great injury done to the owners and occupiers of that land. The fenders on the banks of the river and of the brook have not been raised more than was necessary to prevent the lands from being so inundated.

Upon the above findings the Court of King's Bench held, after argument, that the defendants were not justified in altering for their own benefit (by raising the fenders) the course in which the flood-water had been accustomed to run, and that an indictment well lay for the nuisance thereby caused. Judgment was therefore entered for the Crown. But upon the case being taken by writ of error to the Court of Exchequer Chamber, it was held, on the 30th January, 1832, that to enable the Court to come to any decision between the parties, the special verdict ought also to have found:—(1) Whether the raising of the fenders

was an ancient and rightful usage, or whether it had begun since the construction of the canal (the Court holding that there appeared to be no doubt but that at common law the landholders would have the right to raise the banks of the river and brook from time to time, as it became necessary, upon their own lands, so as to confine the flood-water within the banks and to prevent it from overflowing their own lands; with this single restriction, that they did not thereby occasion any injury to the lands or property of other persons). (2) Whether the course described by the special verdict to have been taken by the flood-water was, or was not, the ancient and rightful course, and (3), whether or not the raising of the fenders to their then present height had become necessary in consequence of the construction of the aqueduct. And to enable these questions to be disposed of, the Court reversed the judgment which had been given for the Crown, and awarded a *venire de novo* (in effect a new trial of the whole case).

Whether the case ever came before another jury, or whether some compromise was effected, I have been unable as yet to ascertain. Perhaps some correspondent can say if the erection of the large weir on the Stretford meadows had anything to do with the final settlement of the matter; it has at all events rendered the canal embankment (now greatly strengthened by the adjoining railway embankment) practically safe from damage by flood-water.

But however the question was finally disposed of, it is clear from the above case that the owners of land adjoining the river were under no legal liability either to one another, or to third persons, or to the public, to maintain the fenders along the banks of the river of any particular height, or even to keep the same in repair. The verdict distinctly finds that the defendants acted severally and not jointly in raising and maintaining the fenders, each desiring to keep the flood-water from inundating his adjacent land. No doubt the various landowners have from time to time acted more or less in concert in repairing and raising the fenders, but neither in the King's Bench nor in the Exchequer Chamber was there any suggestion raised on behalf of the defendants that they were under any compulsion of law in doing the acts complained of by the prosecutors.

*Section 1 of the Act 2, Geo. III., c. 11, required the Duke of Bridgewater to make such arches under the canal as should be sufficient at all times to convey the water from the lands adjoining the canal without obstructing or impounding the same. Hence this right to compensation.

ENGLISH AND GERMAN: LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.

(Query No. 4,495, November 20.)

[4,502.] This query may be answered in two words—the German language. According to all authorities German is the mother tongue of English. In his work *The English Language*, Dr. R. G. Latham, the greatest authority, boldly says, when speaking of its origin:—

The English language comes from Germany. But let us consider the question more closely. The earliest effusions that appear in English are metrical in form and almost always historical in matter. The Anglo-Saxon writings differ from those that have come to us from other nations; they neglect almost utterly ancestral legends; they avoid the choice of national themes for poetry. The oldest metrical monuments seem to be "The Gleeman's Song," "The Battle of Finsburgh," "The Tale of Beowulf." All three have been most likely composed before the sixth and last settlement of invaders from Germany in 547 A.D., but did not appear in England before the beginning of the eighth century. The latter is essentially a Norse Saga, illustrating the early Gothic life in Scandinavia. The first Anglo-Saxon writer of note is Cædmon, a monk of Whitby, who died about 680 A.D. He composed many poems on the Bible histories and other religious subjects. The greatest writer undoubtedly is Bede, called the Venerable Bede, who died 755 A.D. His works consist of scriptural translations, biographies, and the well-known Ecclesiastical History of the Anglo-Saxons.

For the first traces of German literature we are indebted to Tacitus. He says that the German warriors at the beginning of a battle, at jovial feasts, or at burials, sang battle-songs or war-songs. Historical songs are to be traced to the fourth, fifth, and sixth century. The Gothic legends of Dietrich of Bern (Verona), Hildebrand, Heliand] (Healer or Saviour), and Gospel history, in alliterative versifications, have been written before the eighth century. But the oldest and most valuable monument in prose is the Mæso-Gothic Bible (parts of the Old and New Testament), translated by Bishop Vulfila (Ufilas), who died in 388 A.D. The oldest copy, the so-called Silver Codex, is a unique treasure of the University of Upsala (Sweden). It is the oldest book in a perfect Germanic dialect. Jacob Grimm says: "No other living European language can boast of a monument of such antiquity and such high value."

Rabanus Maurus, archbishop of Mayence, who died in 856 A.D.; and Osfried, a monk of Weissenburg (Alsace), who died about 870 A.D., deserve notice as being two of the earliest great writers and translators in the Old High-German language.

Wilmslow.

C. LOBENHOFFER.

CHETHAM COLLEGE CURIOSITIES.

(Nos. 4,487 and 4,492.)

[4,503.] The list of curiosities once preserved at Cheetham College, given by Mr. RYLAND in the issue of November 18, brought to my recollection that I had somewhere in my possession an old song in the Lancashire Dialect enumerating most of the "odds and ends" which it appears Mr. RYLAND had thoughtfully jotted down a long time ago. After a good rummage I found the ditty, and now send it to you, in the hope that both Mr. RYLAND and Mr. BOOTH, and I may say your readers generally, may be glad to have a reprint in your columns of a rough piece of Lancashire humour, which has at the same time a dash of antiquarian interest about it. If you think so too, perhaps you will kindly allow it to appear. It seems to have been a production of about sixty years ago.

T. A. L.

Sale.

The piece sent is "Johnny Green's Wedding, and Description of Manchester College," one of the Songs of the Wilsons, a collection of which was published in 1842. The authors of these songs were Michael Wilson, born in Newton Lane, Ancoats, in 1763, died 1840; and his two sons, Thomas and Alexander. The piece sent by our correspondent was written by Alexander Wilson, born 1803, died 1846. Omitting the part describing the wedding the following is the account of Cheetham College:—

We seed a clock-face first, good laws!
Where Deoth stonds up wi' great lung claws.
His legs, an' wings, an' lantern jaws,

They really look't quite feorin'.
There's snakes an' watchbills, just loike poikes,
Ot Hunt an' aw th' reformin' toikes;
An' thee, an' me, an' Sam o' Moikes,
Once took a blanketeerin'.

Eh! loorjus days, boath far an' woide,
There's yards o' books at every stroide,
Fro top to bothum, eend, an' soide,

Sich plecks there's very tew so;
Aw axt him if they wurn to sell,
For Nan loikes readin' vastly well;
Boh th' meastur wur sawt, an' he could nah tell
Or aw'd bowt her Robinson Crusoe.

Theer's a trumpet speyks an' makes a din,
An' a shute o' cloos made o' tin,
For folks to goo a-feightin' in,
Just loike those chaps o' Boney's.

An theer's a table carved so queer,
 Wi' os mony planks os days i'th' year,
 An crinkum crankums here an' theere,
 Loike th' cloas-press at meh gronny's.

Theer's Oliver Crummill's bumbs and balls,
 An' Frenchmen's guns they'n tean i' squalls,
 An' swords, os lung os me, on th' walls,

An bows and arrows, too, mon:
 Aw didna moind his fearfo words,
 Nor skeletons o' men an burda,
 Boh aw fair hate seet o' great lung swords,
 Sin th' feight at Peterloo, mon.

We seed a wooden cock loikwise;
 Boh dang it, mon, these college-boys,
 They tell'n a pack o' starin' loies,
 Os sure os theaw'rt a sinner;
 That cock, when it smells roast beef, 'll crow,
 Says he: "Boh" aw said, "theaw lies, aw know,
 "An' aw con prove it plainly so,
 "Aw've a peawned i' meh hat for dinner."

Boh th' hairy mon had miss'd meh thowt,
 An' th' clog fair crackt by thunner-bowt,
 An' th' woman noather lawmt, nor nowt,
 Theaw ne'er seed loike sin t'ur born, mon;
 Theer's crocodiles, an' things, indeed,
 Aw colours, mak, shap, size, an' breed;
 An' if aw moo tell tone hoaf aw seed,
 We moot sit an' smook till morn, mon.

QUERIES.

[4,504.] THE ORDER OF THE DRUIDS.—When and where in England was the first lodge of the Order of Druids opened, and where can I find an account of the formation of the Order?

A. E. NIGHTINGALE.

[4,505.] UPSET THE APPLE-CART.—What is the origin of this saying? In Hodder's *Life of Lord Shaftesbury*, just published, the remark is quoted of a noted Socialist, "If the Prince goes on like this, why, he'll upset our apple-cart."

JOEL JOHNSON.

[4,506.] ALEXANDER DUMAS'S HISTORICAL NOVELS. I should be glad to have a list of Alexander Dumas's historical works in chronological order, bracketting together those dealing with one set of characters, as, for instance, *Three Musketeers* and *Twenty Years After*.

R. S. JACKSON.

Saturday, December 4, 1886.

NOTES.

WOMEN AS SONNETEERS.

[4,507.] There was a discussion in the *City News* some time ago on this subject, which was interesting if not quite exhaustive of the topic. May I call the attention of your readers to the new number of *Macmillan's Magazine*, which contains the following

SONNET.

[The author of these lines—a girl of twenty-five—was drowned in a Welsh river last August. The night before her death she was heard to say: "If I do not die soon, I think I shall make something of poetry."]

If this poor name of mine, now writ in sand
 On Life's grey shore, which Time for ever laves—
 A hungry ocean of unresting waves—
 Might but be graven on rock, and so withstand
 A little while the weather and the tide,
 Great joy were mine. Alas! I cannot guide
 My chisel right to carve the stubborn stone
 Of Fame; and so the numbness of despair
 Invades me; for the sounding names are there
 Of all Earth's great ones; and methinks mine own
 Fades in their music; yet before the light
 Has vanished from the sky, and unblest light,
 In which no man can work, shall stain the air,
 I stand and weep on the grey shore—alone.

The beauty of these verses, and the pathetic circumstances attaching to them, will touch sympathetic chords in many hearts.

A MANCHESTER PYTHAGOREAN.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

THE CHETHAM CURIOSITIES AND ALEXANDER WILSON.

(No. 4,053, November 27.)

[4,508.] My father possessed a small pamphlet description of these curiosities, as enumerated by a college boy acting as guide. To the best of my recollection it ended "That's th' cock 'at crows when it smells roast beef—an' that's t' road eawt"—there being, however, no pause between the two announcements in actual practice.

Alexander Wilson was a furniture broker in Long Millgate when I knew him; he had succeeded his

father, Michael Wilson, in the business. There was a factory then opposite to the end of Hanover-street, with a long stretch of blank wall (presumably enclosing a yard) extending in the direction of Miller's Lane. Wilson's shop adjoined this blank wall. He was a thin man, jocular, with a rather humorous cast of face; was an artist as well as a song-writer, as may be seen in the frontispiece to Procter's *Memorials of Manchester Streets*. My father pointed out to me a pictorial sign of his painting on the opposite side of Long Millgate; I have forgotten the subject. There were few Manchester lads who could not have sung "Tommy Green's Wedding," or "Tinker's Gardens," in my young days.

ISABELLA BANKS.

London.

THE ABDUCTION OF MISS TURNER.

(Note No. 4,500, November 27.)

[4,509.] Mr. LOCKHART falls into a few errors in his account of the abduction of Miss Turner. In going back half a century the memory has a great tax upon it, and I venture to make some corrections, and I think I shall be correct as I have had some interest in the event.

Mr. Critchley was not a lawyer, but a silk manufacturer. A solicitor entered the firm, which is now carried on by his son, and this may account for the statement that Mr. Critchley was in the legal profession. Mr. Critchley was not a very wealthy man, and his colliery experiences were at Hindley Green and unsuccessful. He married the sister of Mr. Turner, who was a millowner at Blackburn, and did a shipping business in High-street. His brothers were in partnership with him, and one of them occupied a house where the Piccadilly entrance to the Queen's Hotel now is. Mr. Houldsworth, I think, was next door. I have been in his house a few times, never heard him addressed as Doctor, and doubt very much if he was one. Mr. Critchley left an estate at Macclesfield to Mr. Legh's daughter, who married a clergyman, a considerable sum to charities, something to his wife's, and the residue to his own relatives.

I knew Mr. Warner very well, and if his wife was a cousin of the heiress it must have been a distant one, for Mr. Warner must have been a generation younger.

F. KENDERDINE.

Morningside, Old Trafford.

THE ORDER OF DRUIDS.

(Query No. 4,504, November 27.)

[4,510.] A. E. NIGHTINGALE inquires when and where in England the first lodge of the Order of Druids was opened. I cannot tell; but I know that my great-grand-uncle, Richard Elliott, revived and re-founded "The Ancient Order of Druids" in London between fifty and sixty years ago. I think the lodge over which he presided was near the old Fleet Prison, somewhere in Faringdon-street, or the part which now bears that name, but of this I have no certain knowledge. Mr. Elliott was, in my recollection, a grand old gentleman, about six feet high, and to nearly the end of his life as upright as a Guardsman. He died at eighty-seven, and after his death the lodge, if not all the lodges of the Order, at every onthly meeting began with a solemn tribute to the memory of "their founder, Richard Elliott."

I remember that my venerable relative introduced his great-nephew, the comedian Edward Wright, to the Order, and officiated at his initiation. The old gentleman's sense of the dignity of the Order was wounded because Wright's sense of the ludicrous was visibly touched at some point of the initiatory ceremony. Mr. Elliott was a Roman Catholic; a dear old man, of unfailing good breeding and gentleness; the kindly friend of my childhood. I think the Brotherhood had his portrait painted for their hall in London. I have not seen it, but I possess valuable oil-painted portraits of two of his family. He was married, but died childless, and was buried, I believe, in Brompton Cemetery.

J. M.

Saltash Vicarage.

* * *

Druidism claims to date from the builder of the Ark, but modern Druidism claims to date from the year 1781, its location being London, under the title of the United Ancient Order of Druids. Coming down to the present century, we find that it selected its Board of Management from the metropolitan district. Owing, however, to this fact, and the management being in the hands of the same persons continually, other districts began to feel aggrieved and desired a voice in the management. This caused secessions to take place time after time, so much so that in the year 1857 there were as many as twenty-three sections of Druids in various parts of the country, all governed distinctively. But in the year 1858 a scheme of amalgamation was carried out, by

which provision for a general executive, elected from the various districts on equitable grounds, was made. About the year 1858 two of the seceded districts, the Manchester and Salford and the Sheffield districts, took up the question of reform in a wise manner, and amongst other things adopted equalization; and there is no doubt this step caused great progress to be made by the Order, great credit being due to Mr. G. Wood, the founder of the Sheffield District and afterwards Grand Master of the Order, for the action he took in the matter. An able article from his pen appeared in the January number of the *Druids' Journal* for the year 1871.

The offices of the two Orders of Druids are (1) the United Ancient Order, George's-street, Hull; and (2) the Order of Druids, St. John-street, Lower Byrom-street, Manchester. The secretaries I have no doubt would supply any information required.

H. R. ONIONS, N.I.O.F.

Longsight.

JOHN WESLEY AND ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, PENDLETON.

(Note No. 4,485, November 13.)

[4,511.] The church in Pendleton, called St. Thomas's, was erected and built on a piece of land called "Patch," by Samuel Brierley, of Pendleton, chapman; Thomas Fletcher, of Manchester, yeoman; and Robert Baxter, heir-at-law of the said Thomas Fletcher, after his decease. The foundation stone was laid in 1767, and cost twenty-five pounds five shillings. The church was built in 1772-3, and was consecrated July 26, 1776. The total cost was £897, apportioned as follows:—Samuel Brierley's charge, £395; Thomas Fletcher's charge, £302.

It is evident from these dates that the chapel was five or six years in building, from 1767 to 1773, but it was not consecrated until three years after, namely, in 1776. We have no positive evidence, only tradition, that it was occupied by the Wesleyans, except on the one occasion named by Mr. JAMES STELFOX, when the Rev. John Wesley preached in it, April, 1774. A few months after it was built, and, as the rev. gentleman says in his *Journal*, intended for a church minister, it is hardly probable that a place of worship built by churchmen for a church minister and church worshippers would be occupied by any other denomination, unless there was some arrangement whereby each could use it, one in the

morning the other at night. Notwithstanding these surmises there is a blank in the history of the chapel from 1774 to 1776 as to the occupation, and it would be interesting to old Pendletonians if further information could be obtained respecting these two years.

Perhaps the trustees of Brunswick Wesleyan Chapel may have some old deeds or documents relating to the history of the Wesleyans in Pendleton about the years 1770 to 1776 that would throw some light on the matter. They must have been a strong body even in those days, as they were able, in 1814, to build a chapel as large as the present St. Thomas's Church, which was not erected until seventeen years later.

In the *Annals of Manchester* by Timperley, 1839 edition, under the date 1754, mention is made of a school and school-house erected and endowed by Thomas Fletcher, in Levenshulme, re-built in 1824. This, no doubt, is the same Thomas Fletcher named in the above particulars.

POW-POSEY.

QUERIES.

[4,512.] PROUD PRESTON.—How and why did Preston obtain the epithet "proud?"

MANCUNIENSIS.

HOW THE GERMANS UNDERSSELL US.—A London correspondent tells the following story:—A large order for steel rails for a Spanish railway was recently very unwillingly withheld from an English maker who had tendered, and whose rails had given satisfaction previously. His price was abnormally low; but a very much lower tender was sent in by a German maker. The responsible official, sceptical because of the price, and not knowing the German maker, went to see his works. He found them large, well organized, and complete. He then proceeded to test the sample rail, and to his surprise found it of purer and better quality than the English make, although made from imported English pigs. Pushing his inquiries further, he learnt that guided by scientific tests, the German maker, instead of using only one quality of pig (as English makers are said to do, according to the district they are in), had mixed two or more qualities together, and so had arrived at his satisfactory result. But it was still plain, and indeed acknowledged, that the price in the tender was under cost price. The German maker, like others of his fellow-manufacturers, was taking orders for export at losing prices. He was resolved to keep his works going, and he looked to recoup his losses on foreign orders out of the higher prices which the protective tariff enabled him to charge his own countrymen. This is an arrangement which may be very convenient to the German manufacturer so long as it can last, but which is not likely to commend itself in perpetuity to the intelligent German consumer.

Saturday, December 11, 1886.

NOTES.

THE HORSE-SHOE AT THE SEVEN STARS.

[4,513.] A horse shoe hangs, or did hang recently, at the foot of the stairs in the entrance of the old Seven Stars Hotel, Withy Grove, Manchester. The incident connected with it is thus narrated in a business circular, and is perhaps worthy of permanent record in the Notes and Queries column:—

In 1805 Napoleon threatened the invasion of England, and had gathered together a flotilla of gunboats at Boulogne ready to pour a French army on her shores. Lord Nelson, however, on the 21st October of this eventful year, inflicted upon the combined fleets of France and Spain a most decisive defeat off Cape Trafalgar, but was most unfortunately himself killed in the action. In this year the Press Gang were staying at the old hostel, the Seven Stars in Manchester, and, seeing a farmer's servant man leading up Withy Grove a horse which had cast a shoe, seized the man and brought him into the house. Before leaving he nailed the shoe to a post in the lobby, saying, "Let this stay here until I come from the wars to claim it;" and there it still remains waiting its owner's return.

FREDERICK LAWRENCE TAVARE.

Sherwood-street, Fallowfield.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

CHETHAM COLLEGE CURIOSITIES.

(Nos. 4,053, 4,508, and others.)

[4,514.] The pamphlet named by Mrs. BANKS was written by John Stanley Gregson, the author of *Gimcrackiana*. There is more than one edition of it in the Free Library, and it is also given by Hone. It was a very clever report of the description by the blue-coat boy who took the visitors round and explained to them the wonders of the place. Many of us have listened to that oration.

A MANCHESTER PYTHAGOREAN.

THE HISTORICAL NOVELS OF ALEXANDER DUMAS.

(Query No. 4,508, Nov. 27.)

[4,515.] The bulk of the historical novels of the elder Dumas are founded upon incidents, or illustrate periods, in this history of France, as follows:—

Century.	Subject.	Novel.
12...	The Waldenses	Knight of Mauleon.
14...	Charles the Sixth.....	Isabel of Bavaria.
16...	The Jesuits.....	Ascanio.
16...	Massacre of St. Bartho-	} Margaret de Valois.
---	lomew (1572)	

Century.	Subject.	Novel.
16...	---	Forty-five Guardsmen.
17...	Siege of La Rochelle (1629)	Three Musketeers.
17...	Time of Mazarin	Twenty Years After.
17...	" "	Nanon.
18...	Time of Louis XIV.	Louise de la Vallière.
18...	Death of Louis XV.....	Memoirs of Physician.
18...	Court of Louis XVI.....	Queen's Necklace.
18...	Revolution of 1789: } Taking the Bastille }	Six Years Later.
18...	Champ de Mars, 1790 ...	Comtesse de Charney.
18...	Revolution: 1792.....	The Chevalier.
18...	" "	Love and Liberty.
18...	Revolution: 1793.....	Andrée de Taverny.
18...	Revolution: 1793. The } Red Terror	Chevalier of Maison Rouge.
18...	Revolution: 1793. The } Death of Marat ... }	Ingenue.
19...	The Empire: 1804	The Conscript.
19...	" "	The Twin Captains.
19...	Revolution of 1848	Edward Dantes.

This list is not exhaustive. The scene of one work, *The Half Brothers*, is laid in Spain in the year 1361; and that of the *Black Tulip* at the Hague in 1672. Although this delightful author gives generally a faithful historical colouring, it must be remembered that he does not always adhere rigidly to the known facts of history. Thus, his narrative of the events leading up to the execution of the Charles the First in England, in, I think, *Twenty Years After*, is of the strangest and most romantic kind, and does not agree in the least with the accounts of the chroniclers and historians. In fact, as his son, the younger Dumas, said once to an English critic, "My father was born in a poetic and picturesque epoch; he was an idealist. I came into the world in a period of materialism; I am a realist. My father took his subject from dreamland; I take it from life."

J. H. N.

* * *

The following are some of the periods dealt with by Dumas:—Early French history: Marguerite de Valois; Chicot The Jester; The Forty-five Guardsmen. English-French: Three Musketeers; Twenty years after; Viscount de Bragelonne. Later French: Memoirs of a Physician; Queen's Necklace; Taking the Bastille; Countess de Charney; and Chevalier de Maison Rouge.

J. H. DOEG.

Older Bridge, Garstang.

THE ABDUCTION OF MISS TURNER.

(Nos. 4,500 and 4,509.)

[4,516.] I think your correspondent Mr. KENDERDINE has fallen into an error, as well as Mr. LOCKHART, respecting some members of the Turner family.

He says Mr. Critchley married a Miss Turner, whose brother was a millowner at Blackburn, and did a shipping business in High-street. His brothers were in partnership with him, and one of them lived in a house which is now part of the Queen's Hotel. I knew *the* Mr. Turner who lived in that house very well; my father and he were on intimate terms. He had a warehouse in High-street—Haworth's warehouse now stands on the site. The firm was Robert Turner, jun., and Co., calico printers, not millowners; nor did I ever hear he had anything to do with either spinning or manufacturing. He was a racing man, and had a stud of horses. Amongst them was a horse called Recovery, which won the Liverpool Cup in July, 1830 or 1831, beating the winner of the Derby, which was backed to win with about ten to one upon him.

I also knew Mr. Warner. He was a partner in the firm of Alfred Thomas and Co., calico printers, Church-street. The business collapsed in some form, but I forget how, it is so long since; but Mr. Warner turned sharebroker and became a member of the Manchester Stock Exchange. His offices were in Cross-street. His name does not now appear in the list of sharebrokers, so I suppose he must have passed away.

GEORGE MOUNTAIN.

* * *

I am greatly obliged to Mr. KENDERDINE for his kindly corrections of my note. I beg to assure him, however, that he is in error as regards Mr. and Mrs. Warner. Mrs. Warner was first cousin to Miss Turner, and some six or seven years her senior. The heiress would only be seventy-five if she were now living; whilst Mrs. Warner was born in 1804, and the late Mr. Warner was seventy-six when he died, four years ago; so that it is not likely that he would be a generation younger.

J. C. LOCKHART.

* * *

On the trial of Edward Gibbon Wakefield and his brother at Lancaster, David Laing, the original blacksmith, was put into the witness-box to prove the Gretna Green marriage, one of the last of his many rivettings. The severe cross-examination of Henry Brougham (leader of the Northern Circuit), added to the fatigues of the journey, proved too much for the strength of old David, who, on reaching home, had to retire to the bed from which he never arose. See published State Trials; also the printed speeches of Lord Brougham. XIPHIAE.

QUERIES.

[4,517.] COCKFIGHTING.—When was the game of cockfighting first expressly forbidden by law?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,518.] BAPTIST CHAPEL IN GRANBY ROW.—In Granby Row, nearly opposite Rifle-street, there existed two or three years ago a small building with a tablet in front, indicating that it had formerly been used as a Baptist chapel. The date on the tablet I have now forgotten. I should like an account of this building, with its past associations and the state of the country around when it was built.

J. R. WILSON.

CHINESE ETIQUETTE AND ENGLISH POLICE

COURTS.—Police officers can hardly be expected to know all the details of Oriental etiquette, but a sad mistake was made on Thursday by one who was on duty at the West Ham Court. A Chinaman, having been fined for smuggling, paid the money and immediately put on his hat, which was as promptly pulled off again by the officer. Then it had to be explained by the interpreter that the poor man had only covered his head out of respect to the magistrate, in accordance with the way of his countrymen.

A FAMOUS LION-KILLER.—The Cross of the Legion of Honour, says a Paris correspondent, has just been given to the famous Ahmed Ben Ahmar, not for his courage in face of human foes, but for his prowess as a lion-killer in the Algerian province of Constantine. During the last twenty-six years he has rendered good service to the State, for he has killed no fewer than two hundred lions. One lion is estimated to destroy annually cattle and sheep worth ten thousand francs, so that reckoning that on an average each of the lions killed by Ahmed Ben Ahmar would have lived ten years, the lion-killer has saved Algeria close on twenty million francs.

THE POPULATION OF FRANCE.—The French census taken last May was published on Thursday. It shows the population of France to be 38,218,000, whereas in December, 1881, it was 37,672,000. This gives an increase of 546,000, whereas in 1881 the increase in five complete years was 766,000. In Paris the increase is only 75,000—namely, from 2,269,000 to 2,344,000—whereas last time it was 280,000. Lyons has the much larger proportionate increase of 25,000—namely, from 376,000 to 401,000. Marseilles has increased from 360,000 to 376,000, Bordeaux from 221,000 to 240,000, Lille from 178,000 to 188,000, Nice from 66,000 to 77,000. Roubaix has increased by 8,000, and Toulouse and Tours each by 7,000. The other large towns, with the exception of St. Etienne (which has fallen from 123,000 to 117,000), show an increase in no case exceeding 6,000. The fifty-three cities or towns having more than 30,000 inhabitants, Paris included, show a net increase of 309,000.

Saturday, December 18, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COCKFIGHTING.

(Query No. 4,517, December 11.)

[4,519.] The cruel sport of cockfighting was prohibited in 1365 by Edward the Third; also by Henry the Eighth and Oliver Cromwell. Yet a royal cock-pit stood long afterwards in Whitehall, and was used in the time of Hogarth. In Hone's *Everyday Book* we have a full account of the shying at cocks every Shrove Tuesday, which was a recognized custom at grammar schools and in market places, the parents of the scholars paying the "cockpennies" towards expenses. Professor Wilson kept birds at Oxford about 1806, and had mains fought in his own grounds at Ellera about 1812. Fifteen or twenty years back several Cheshire gentlemen, one a justice of the peace, were summoned for practising this sport. I believe they escaped by paying a nominal fine. Cockfighting was popular in Greece. The Romans introduced it into Britain.

XIPHIAS.

THE COCKADE.

(Query No. 4,482, November 6.)

[4,520.] The wearing of the Cockade has, by general consent, been conceded to servants of officers holding Her Majesty's commission, or of those officers retired from the service with permission to retain their rank. I myself have noticed more than one person's servant wrongfully wearing the cockade; yet, I suppose, the master would consider himself insulted if he was called a snob.

C. D.

* * *

In the excellent and comprehensive *Encyclopædic Dictionary* published by Cassell and Company the article on the Cockade states that "in England cockades are worn by servants of masters serving under the Crown in the Army and Navy, Deputy Lieutenants, and others, and are of black leather, originally the distinctive cockade of the House of Hanover. Coloured cockades mark the retinue of foreign officials. Cockades played an important part in the French Revolution, white cocades being assumed by the Jacobites." Nothing is said as to the legality of wearing the emblem; and I should greatly doubt whether there is any law limiting their use in this country. It is a mere matter of custom or etiquette.

ANON.

THE BAPTIST CHAPEL IN GRANBY ROW.

(Query No. 4,518, December 11.)

[4,521.] The chapel in Granby Row, referred to by J. R. WILSON, was built in 1835, and on the tablet over the door was the inscription, "Baptist Chapel, 1835." At that time, on the London Road side, there was a small brewery; then two cottages, in one of which we lived at that time. Next to the cottages was a beerhouse, kept by the owner of the brewery, whose name was Sankey. By the side of this beerhouse there was a passage running down to the river Medlock. This part was all built up. There were two courts and a row of cottages facing the river, with gardens running down to the river edge. On the opposite side of Granby Row, and forming the side of Rifle-street next to the Roman Catholic Chapel, was a joiner's yard and workshop belonging to Mr. Ireland. Beyond this was a stonemason's yard belonging to my uncles, R. and S. Adamson. From this locality, looking towards Brook-street, it was all open waste land, and it was called Granby Row Fields, and was divided into hollows by the raised roadways just formed, namely, Sackville-street from near the canal bridge to the river bridge near Mount-street; Charles-street from Sackville-street to near Brook-street; and Granby Row from Rifle-street to near Brook-street. Along the river side of Charles-street were some cottages in gardens, and at the junction of Sackville-street was an old building which I think had been a dye works. The hollows formed by these cross roads were made use of sometimes by mountebanks, who used to attract large crowds of people; and there were often men-fights and dog-fights, at which hundreds of people would be congregated on the sides of the embankments, which answered the purpose of a gallery. At the Brook-street corner of Granby Row stood Old Garrett Hall, which has already been described in your valuable paper. Looking across towards Canal-street was a row of houses with gardens, called Fishpond-street. At this time there was no bridge in Charles-street, but opposite the end of Granby Row there was a footpath down some steps across the yard of the Garrett Dyeworks and over a wooden foot-bridge across the river. This footway was afterwards raised and made an enclosed passage, crossing the river by an open-floored iron foot-bridge and then down into Charles-street.

I cannot say when the chapel was given up. It

was a very plain brick structure, furnished in a primitive style, and never well attended.

JOHN ADAMSON.

Darncombe-street, Moss Side.

DUMAS' HISTORICAL NOVELS

(Nos. 4,508 and 4,515.)

[4,522.] Just now, while the novels of Dumas are being noticed, attention may be drawn to the well-known fact that the great novelist was also a great plagiarist, who acted fully up to the motto, "Je prends mon bien où je le trouve," and accordingly he felt no compunction in stealing from other writers whole passages and scenes. Much of our Shakspeare and Sir Walter Scott may be found throughout his writings without the slightest acknowledgment. Besides all this, he was in the habit, from some cause or other, of kindly and accommodatingly lending his magic name to some writers of considerable ability, whose works appeared with Alexander Dumas on the title-page; and, strange as it may appear, he hardly ever read a line of many of the novels of which he in this easy manner allowed himself to pass, in the opinion of the gulled public, as the veritable author. Of course, some ridiculous and rather awkward inconveniences, which need not be specified here, at times arose to himself from this practice. It will thus be seen that, in addition to being an ordinary plagiarist on a scale of great magnitude, he was a wholesale appropriator of other men's entire works, not, indeed, without the consent, but in obliging compliance with the actual and urgent entreaty of the real authors.

As an instance of the practice in question, may be pointed out the *Three Musketeers*, included in the list of Dumas' works sent by "J. H. N." This work was a favourite with Mr. Thackeray, who writes in one of his *Roundabout Papers*, "They say that all the works bearing Dumas' name were not written by him," and then he goes on to make characteristic excuses for this prince of plagiarists. It is now, I believe, admitted by all who have looked into the matter that the *Three Musketeers* was certainly written by Auguste Maquet, without any assistance from Dumas. Other works might be mentioned to which Dumas readily granted the loan of his name in this somewhat questionable manner, but enough.

F. SILKSTONE.

Manchester.

JOHN WESLEY AND ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, PENDLETON.

(Nos. 4,485 and 4,511.)

[4,523.] Your correspondent POW-POSEY invites observations upon the above subject from some one connected with Brunswick Wesleyan Chapel. In the year 1864 I took great interest in the preparation of *An Account of Methodism in Pendleton*, and the Rev. George O. Bate, then resident minister at Pendleton, also took special interest in the matter. The result of our investigations was communicated to the public meeting held that year in celebration of the jubilee of Brunswick Chapel. The following is an extract;—

In the year 1774 Mr. Wesley visited Pendleton. He writes thus in his journal:—"Wednesday, April 6, 1774. I preached at Pendleton Pole, two miles from Manchester, in a new chapel designed for a Church minister, which was filled from end to end." He refers to St. Thomas's Chapel, "Brunledge," or Brindle Heath, which was erected at the expense of Samuel Brierley, Esq. (grandfather to the present Mrs. Hodgeon and the late Mrs. John Wood), for the use of his son, but he died. The chapel remained for some time unconsecrated—more than two years—until July 26, 1776. The Bishop of Chester was urged by Mr. Brierley to consecrate it, and was told that if it were not done speedily it would be given to the Methodists, and that Mr. Wesley had already preached in it. He said, in reply:—"Mr. Wesley is a very good man, and I wish there were many such." These were sentiments unusually friendly for that time. It is said in Timperley's *Annals of Manchester* that this chapel "was originally occupied by the Wesleyan Methodists." If so it was only very seldom, and by special permission; certainly not regularly.

The above extract shows that so far back as 1864 we came to the conclusion that this chapel had not been used as a preaching place by the Wesleyans except it might be on special occasions. The question as to the occupation of the church during the period of the blank in the history from 1774 to 1776 still remains. I may say that there were "no old deeds or documents relating to the history of the Wesleyans in Pendleton" so far back as 1776. Indeed, the extract given above from Mr. Wesley's journal seems to be the first and only written notice; and, unfortunately, at the date of our investigation in 1864, an old lady, a Mrs. Brierley, daughter-in-law of this Mr. Samuel Brierley, I believe, had died, and her lips were sealed. I have not a copy of the statement prepared some years ago by the Rev. W. J. Smith to refer to, but from my own notes I am inclined to think the church was closed and was not in regular use as a place of public worship.

I have not seen it stated elsewhere that Mr. Brierley intended the chapel for a son who died. May not this be one reason for the delay in the consecration? Again, some difficulty may have arisen about the consecration, as Mr. Brierley is reported to have called personally upon the Bishop of Chester on returning from a visit into Wales. It seems probable that Mr. Brierley's leanings were more favourable to Methodism than to the Church of England, as we find that his relatives and descendants were among the early Methodists. To give another extract from our *History of Methodism*:—

Methodist work in Pendleton began with cottage prayer meetings, conducted by leaders who came up for the purpose from the Birchin Lane (Manchester) Society. They were held in a large room used as a dining-room by the workmen in the employ of Mr. Samuel Brierley, in Brindle Heath. It stood on ground opposite the Crescent Church schools there, and it was afterwards used as a preaching place.

We have no dates as to the beginning of these services, but the Birchin Lane Chapel was built about 1750; and we find that in 1765 this small chapel was crowded out.

Can Pow-POSEY inform us (1) What was the date of the appointment of the Rev. Mr. Pedley? (2) Have we any record of Church of England services being conducted in Pendleton before 1776? And, although wide of the subject, (3) Is there any truth in the tradition that Mr. Brierley was or wished to be buried upright between the Jews and the Gentiles, the two burial grounds being nearly adjacent?

Whilst writing I would correct a statement of Pow-POSEY's, and add that the original Brunswick Chapel as built in 1814 was not nearly so large as the present St. Thomas's Church, and would seat only about one-third the number; but previous to being pulled down it had been enlarged twice.

WILLIAM R. STATHAM.

Pendleton.

QUERIES.

[4,524.] OWNER OF ESTATES NEAR BURNLEY.—I am wishful to obtain information as to names of former and present owners of the estates in and near Burnley, the collieries on the said estates now being worked by the executors of the late John Hargreaves. If you or any of your able correspondents can refer me to any local history or other source likely to afford information of that part of East Lancashire, I shall feel obliged. COAL.

Friday, December 24, 1886.

COMMENTS AND ANSWERS.

COCKFIGHTING.

(Nos. 4,517 and 4,519.)

[4,525.] There are later enactments against cockfighting than those named by XIPHIAS. The practice is prohibited by 12 and 13 Vict., c. 92. Any person keeping fighting cocks is liable to a penalty of £5; also for letting a cock-pit, or otherwise connecting himself with cockfighting for every day he shall so act.

LXX.

JOHN WESLEY AND ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,
PENDLETON.

(Nos. 4,485, 4,511, and 4,523.)

[4,526.] In connection with this subject reference has been more than once made to statements by the Rev. W. J. Smith, late incumbent of St. Thomas's Church. Some of these statements were made in the jubilee sermon preached by Mr. Smith on Sunday, October 9, 1881; and others occur in an addendum to the sermon as published. It may serve a useful purpose to reproduce those passages relating to the matter under discussion. In the course of his sermon Mr. Smith said:—

It was a memorable month in which the old Pendleton Chapel was consecrated. The consecration was on July 26, 1776. . . . Pendleton was then a charming village nestling under the "Height," with a lovely valley trending away to the north-west. In the centre of the village was the green, and round it houses, cottages, orchards, and gardens, and it was separated from the inhabited parts of Salford by common land and fields. Placed in the old parish of Eccles, the old Pendleton Chapel was the first church built in that parish since the Reformation. To-day that parish is too large even for a rural deanery, and has twenty-five churches and mission churches in it. In 1776 the whole parish contained less than 9,000 people, of which nearly 2,000 lived in Pendleton, and there were in 1795 under 1,000 scholars in our Sunday schools, whilst in 1776 there were 303 baptisms. . . .

But to return to our chapel. It was built of brick, with a bell turret, and had accommodation for about 500 worshippers. Samuel Brierley and Thomas Fletcher had jointly built it, the one being responsible for the joiner's work, and the other for the rest of the work. The land belonged to Brierley. The detailed accounts of prices, both of material and

labour, are still preserved, as are also the old lists of pewholders. Four years after the consecration, in 1780, the old school under the old board-room was erected, but it was thirty-five years more before, in 1815, some ladies opened a Sunday-school. The first minister was the Rev. James Pedley, a man appointed to his charge by Samuel Brierley, and from the memories of him which have lived, he must have been a man eminently fitted for his post. The old registers are in his hand-writing, and they are beautifully kept, as clear as copperplate. In many respects a quaint man, he died on July 6, 1825, at the age of seventy-eight, after forty-nine years' ministry here, and on his tombstone there is this quaint epitaph—

And what was his preferment, stranger? Say.
It was not here—he gains, we humbly pray,
Thro' Christ, a living in the realms of day.

Meanwhile the old chapel had been growing too strait for the people, and there was "no convenience whatever for the poor," nor indeed for the young people, whom it was of such infinite consequence to bring to church. The late Mr. Richard Moon Maymon told me that when he and his brother came to Pendleton they were refused admission by the sexton because there was no room. Two resolute efforts were made to remedy this evil, and the second effort promised success. In 1818 an Act of Parliament was obtained, by which twenty-two trustees were appointed, a site given on Duchy land, and the name St. Matthew, chosen for the church. The trustees were further empowered to provide a parsonage, and to invest a sum of money that would produce an endowment of £10 a year. This looked well, but where was the money to come from? According to the Act a special rate of 1s. in the pound was to be levied annually for five years. This though not a light rate in those days, was wholly insufficient for the purpose. The first assessment realized enough to pay the cost of procuring the Act and no more; nor need we wonder at this. The lawyer's bill was £808. Therefore the trustees had to go to Parliament for an Act to repeal the other Act, and to relieve them of their obligations. In arguing for this repealing Act, they state that they had been able, "with great difficulty to raise a sum sufficient to pay the costs and charges" of the first Act, and that, "upon a careful investigation, they had become convinced that the proceeds of the rates would be totally inadequate for the purpose of

building a church." In short, they had to ask for a second rate to defray the cost of the second Act, the Act which repealed the first, and so the matter ended. Can we wonder if church building and church extension went on slowly when there were such difficulties as these in the way? Happily, in another dozen years general church building Acts were enacted, and our present church is one of the results of those Acts. The Rev. William Keeling, whose grandson preached this morning, was Mr. Pedley's worthy successor. A long series of letters in our church safe attests the persistent patience and tact with which he pressed the Government to erect a church here. The Government were then dealing out what has been called the "million grant." The residents of Pendleton raised £1,000, of which £948. 8s. was contributed by sixty-five subscribers. This sum was paid to the commissioners, who added what was required, and the church was built. The old chapel had cost about £700; this church cost about £7,000.

There are three parties in the Church of England, and it is a little remarkable that the formation of the first of those church parties coincides exactly with the period during which the old chapel was in use, whilst the other two parties have sprung up in the last fifty years. Let me ask your attention to the dates. In 1786, although Whitefield was dead, the two Wesleys were in the full vigour of their ministry, and John Wesley had preached in the old Pendleton chapel before its consecration.

Mr. Smith, gave, on publication, the following "few further particulars" in addition to those contained in his sermon:—There is a tradition that John Wesley preached in the old chapel. The cost of it without the site was about £700, and when it was converted into a church a certain amount was raised by the sale of pews, the remainder being "taken up" in pews—to use a commercial phrase—by Brierley and Fletcher's heirs, for Fletcher was dead. Brierley had the first appointment of minister, and nominated the Rev. James Pedley, one of the assistant masters of the Manchester Free Grammar School. Pedley, who lived at one time in Gravel Lane, Salford, and at another in Brindle Heath, where the British Workman now is, was a diamond in the rough, and odd stories linger about concerning Brierley and him. One is that when Brierley was publicly admonished by Pedley for sleeping in church, the now well-awakened Brierley responded, "I'm

as wakken as tha art, Pedley." Brierley had a large square tomb constructed for himself in the chapel yard, and used it for storage of potatoes. His directions were that he should be buried upright, that he might at the resurrection have the start of the Jews, whose little cemetery, so hidden away now by houses that scarcely any but immediate neighbours know of its existence, is higher up the "broo" between the old chapel graveyard and Ford Lane. Pedley died in 1825. The population of Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton in 1776 (as reported in Aikin's History of Manchester, 1795), was 3,256, in 391 families—so that Pendleton alone must have been under the 2,000; by the year 1811 it had increased to 4,805, and in 1821 it was 5,948. The little chapel with room for about 500 was becoming too strait for the Church needs of the place; and the Dissenters were making headway, the New Connexion Chapel in broad-street being opened in 1806, and Brunswick Chapel in 1814. Children and young people were constantly turned away from the doors of St. Thomas' Chapel because there was no room for them, and there was not a single sitting for the poor. Efforts were made by Church people to remedy this. In 1818 an Act of Parliament was obtained naming twenty-two trustees, empowering them to levy a rate of one shilling in the pound for five years, to build or buy a parsonage, to invest a sufficient amount to secure £10 a year endowment, and to erect a church with the name of St. Matthew. Unfortunately the rateable value of Pendleton was too small to meet those charges. The trustees were driven to Parliament for a repealing Act and for powers for a rate to pay for this repealing Act. They had been able "with great difficulty to raise a sum of money sufficient to pay the costs and charges" of procuring the Act itself. The lawyer's bill for obtaining that first Act was £608. In it are, amongst other items, £280. 9s. 1d. for "house fees," ten guineas to the Lord Chancellor's secretary "for attending the committees in both Houses to signify the King's consent to the bill," and the trim little sum of £4. 11s. 3d. made up thus:—Copy of notice to be fixed on the door of Eccles Church five shillings 'for going to affix it one guinea, with seven and ninepence for horse hire and turnpikes; then the same twenty-eight shillings and ninepence each of the two following Sundays for going to see if the notice was still on the church door. When there were these difficulties in the way

of church building, there can be little surprise if the Church of England lost ground. Fortunately, in the next reign General Church Building Acts were passed, and there was also the "Million Grant," by aid from which the present St. Thomas' Church was built. The impulse thus given has been felt ever since, and accounts for the £25,000,000 which, according to Lord Hampton's returns, have been spent upon church building and church restoration. At the laying of the foundation stone of the present church, two small cannon were fired by the primitive method of placing a red hot poker to the touchhole. The lad who ran for that poker is now churchwarden of the church. Thomas Blackburne, Vicar of Eccles, laid the stone, and made a speech—a short one, that he might be away to a cock-fight.

W. HEWITSON.

QUERIES.

[4,527.] CORNS AND THE WEATHER.—How is it that corns hurt more immediately before than just after a period of wet weather?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,528.] THE OLDEST ENGLISH DOCUMENT WITH A DATE.—What is the oldest known English document, original or copied, bearing a specific date of year, month, and day?

MORGAN BRIERLEY.

[4,529.] BURNESIDE.—I shall be greatly obliged if some of your learned readers will explain the meaning of the place-name Burneside, in Westmorland. The natives pronounce it Burn-e-sed. Its present form is modern, the form in last century being Burneshead, which would have precisely the same pronunciation. The ancient spellings, as given in the Historical Manuscripts Commission, Tenth Report, App. part 4, are (in grant of land by Amice, daughter of Roland de Rosgyle, to Roland de Thornberge, about 1260) Sleddale Brunhof; (and in another grant to Roland de Thornburg, about 1291, by William de Lasselles) Sleddale Bronnolfe; one of the witnesses being Roger de Bronnolph. Gilbert de Bronolvishelvd is witness to another deed between the last-named parties in 20 Edward I. The village stands on both banks of the river Kent, and the Hall in the fork formed by the junction of the Kent and the Sprint, at the foot of the valley of Longaledale.

W. WIPER.

